

ARMY



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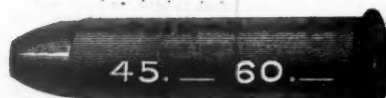
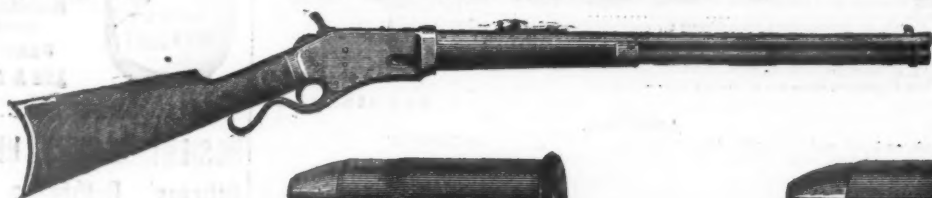
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VOLUME XX.—NUMBER 29.
WHOLE NUMBER 1017.

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THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

New-York Life Insurance Co.

OFFICE, Nos. 346 and 348 BROADWAY.

JANUARY 1, 1883.

Amount of Net Cash Assets, January 1, 1882.....\$45,130,006.86

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Premiums.....	\$9,604,788.38
Less deferred premiums January 1, 1882.....	452,161.00—\$9,152,627.38
Interest and rents (including realized gains on real estate sold).....	3,089,273.21
Less interest accrued January 1, 1882.....	291,254.80—2,798,018.41—\$11,950,645.79
	\$57,080,652.65

DISBURSEMENT ACCOUNT.

Losses by death, including Reversionary additions to same.....	\$1,955,292.00
Endowments matured and discounted, including Reversionary additions to same.....	427,258.95
Annuities, dividends, and returned premiums on cancelled policies.....	3,827,758.76
Total paid Policy-holders.....	\$6,210,309.71
Taxes and re-insurances.....	234,678.27
Commissions, brokerages, agency expenses and physicians' fees.....	1,332,038.38
Office and law expenses, salaries, advertising, printing, &c.....	385,111.18—\$4,162,137.54
	\$48,918,515.11

ASSETS.

Cash in bank, on hand, and in transit (since received).....	\$1,276,026.67
Invested in United States, New York City and other stocks, (market value, \$19,953,956.52).....	18,072,074.81
Real Estate.....	4,133,065.13
Bonds and mortgages, first lien on real estate, (buildings thereon insured for \$17,950,000.00 and the policies assigned to the Company as additional collateral security).....	19,306,940.16
Temporary loans, (secured by stocks, market value, \$5,191,139.50).....	4,313,000.00
*Loans on existing policies, (the reserve held by the Company on these policies amounts to \$2,590,961).....	494,032.23
*Quarterly and semi-annual premiums on existing policies, due subsequent to January 1, 1883.....	540,555.91
*Premiums on existing policies in course of transmission and collection.....	394,395.19
Agents' balances.....	62,424.95
Accrued interest on investments January 1, 1883.....	328,000.06—\$48,918,515.11
Excess of market value of securities over cost.....	1,881,881.71

*A detailed schedule of these items will accompany the annual annual report filed with the Insurance Department of the State of New York.

CASH ASSETS, January 1, 1883.....\$50,800,396.82

Appropriated as follows:

Adjusted losses, due subsequent to January 1, 1883.....	\$351,451.21
Reported losses, awaiting proof, &c.....	138,970.23
Matured endowments, due and unpaid, (claims not presented).....	\$3,350.43
Annuities, due and unpaid (uncalled for).....	6,225.86
Reserved for re-insurance on existing policies; participating insurance at 4 per cent. Carlisle net premium; non-participating at 5 per cent. Carlisle net premium.....	43,174,402.78
Reserved for contingent liabilities to Tontine Dividend, Fund, January 1, 1882, over and above a 4 per cent reserve on existing policies of that class.....	\$2,054,244.03
Addition to the Fund during 1882 for surplus and matured reserves.....	1,109,966.00
	\$3,164,210.03
DEDUCT—	
Returned to Tontine policy-holders during the year on Matured Tontines.....	1,072,837.87
Balance of Tontine Fund January 1, 1883.....	2,091,372.16
Reserved for premiums paid in advance.....	35,782.36

\$45,851,555.03

Divisible Surplus at 4 per cent.....**4,948,841.79**

Surplus by the New York State Standard at 4 1/2 per cent., estimated at **10,000,000.00**

From the undivided surplus of \$4,948,841 the Board of Trustees has declared a Reversionary dividend to participating policies in proportion to their contribution to surplus, available on settlement of next annual premium.

During the year 12,178 policies have been issued, insuring \$41,325,520.

Number of Policies in force	Jan. 1, 1879, 45,005.	Jan. 1, 1880, 45,705.	Jan. 1, 1881, 48,548.	Jan. 1, 1882, 53,927.	Jan. 1, 1883, 60,150.
Amount at risk	Jan. 1, 1879, \$125,232,144.	Jan. 1, 1880, 127,417,763.	Jan. 1, 1881, 135,726,916.	Jan. 1, 1882, 151,760,824.	Jan. 1, 1883, 171,415,097.
Deaths—	1878, \$1,687,676.	1879, 1,569,854.	1880, 1,731,724.	1881, 2,013,203.	1882, 1,955,292.
Income from—	1878, \$1,948,665.	1879, 2,033,650.	1880, 2,317,889.	1881, 2,432,654.	1882, 2,798,018.
Divisible Surplus at 4 per cent.	Jan. 1, 1879, \$2,811,436.	Jan. 1, 1880, 3,120,371.	Jan. 1, 1881, 4,295,096.	Jan. 1, 1882, 4,827,036.	Jan. 1, 1883, 4,948,841.

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"NEEDLE GUN,".....	" " " " " " " "
"CENTENNIAL,".....	" " " " " " " "
"LITTLE JOKER,".....	" " " " " " " "
" " " " " " " "	Long Cut in tinfoil For Pipe and Cigarette.
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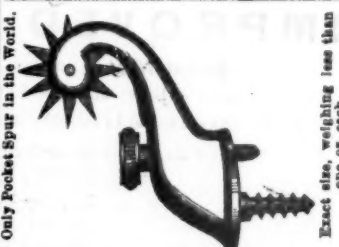
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Publication Office, 240 Broadway, N. Y.
SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

BY EY. MAJOR-GEN. WESLEY MERRITT, COLONEL 5TH
CAVALEY, U. S. A.,

Superintendent and Commandant U. S. Military Academy.

THERE is no part of the history of our civil war that is more fraught with interest than that comprised in the campaign and battles of the Shenandoah Valley, from August, 1864, until the final expulsion of the Confederates in February, 1865. After that time Early was known no more, and Mosby, around whom had gathered a character of more or less importance to the whole reading world, had ceased to be a terror to even such excitable spirits as that of Duffie, who was credited with the remark that "that man Mosby had given him more trouble than Early and his whole army." A happy foresight sent Sheridan to command in the valley. Untried as an army commander, his qualities were well established as a division, corps and cavalry commander, and while Grant may have been loth to spare him from the Army of the Potomac, he could scarcely have hesitated, with his superior insight into the character of men, as to Sheridan's being best fitted of all those available for the command in the Valley, where self-confidence, tempered with a reasonable caution, a well-balanced ambition, and an indomitable energy, coupled with a willingness to work at all times, were so indispensable.

In the volume before us* is given a faithful history of the events and correspondence which led to the transfer of the two cavalry divisions from a more or less inactive life of routine picket duty on the confines of the Dismal Swamp, to unceasing and varying campaigning and battle in the Shenandoah Valley.

There is little question that the Valley campaign grew in importance in General Grant's estimation as he became more familiar with the theatre of operations in Virginia. To Lee the Valley had always been important, both as a field of operations and as a source of supplies. Grant, although occupied with other matters, was not slow to discover the value of this highway for invading the North, and, as soon as was practicable, took means to render it untenable. It is not difficult to see, however, that Grant's interest was first fairly fixed on the Valley when Sheridan went there in command. Before that time his attention was divided between the Army of the Potomac and the Army which he had lately left in the West. Naturally enough, he appears to have regarded affairs in the Valley as a sort of side issue, to be managed by the authorities in Washington; and we may readily suppose he would have been more than content if the Washington strategists had confined themselves to manœuvring Hunter and his forces for the protection of the capital and the Baltimore and Ohio Railway.

After a description of the "Valley of Virginia," Mr. Pond gives an interesting account of the operations of Sigel and Crook, and later of Hunter, during the spring and early summer of 1864, and the story commands attention throughout. With Hunter's operations the interest increases, and while we cannot entirely agree with the author in pronouncing Hunter's campaign a success, we can entirely sympathize with him in the growing interest of the record.

There is one matter particularly noticeable in the work and that is, that it is free from unjust criticisms of men and movements, as well as from fulsome eulogy of some individual, written after the style of contemporary newspaper reports, with the object of bolstering up some post-historic account of a battle in the interest of an officer to whom public opinion and possibly a military court's decision have assigned a definite and proper place. The records of the campaign seem to have been earnestly consulted, and the conclusions tersely and honestly stated. Of course there is a central figure in the history, upon whom the mind of the reader must of necessity dwell; but no one, be he soldier or civilian, will question the right of Sheridan to all the glory for his successes in the Valley that the country and history have bestowed on him.

On taking command in the Valley, Gen. Sheridan found himself with an Army, the different corps of which, to state it mildly, were not entirely congruous. With no disposition to institute comparisons between

the troops, all of whom did good service in the campaign, it is necessary to mention this fact in order that proper credit may be given to the Army commander, who, while manœuvring and watching for a fit opportunity to attack Early with success, was also engaged in making homogeneous, in discipline and spirit, the component parts of his command. It was not, then, till about the middle of August, that Sheridan was fairly in command of the troops in the Valley, and in a little more than a month thereafter, he fought his first battle with Early on the banks of the Opequon.

It is now a matter of surprise that in view of the amount of work to be accomplished in properly organizing his Army, and the care that had to be taken against risks in giving battle to the enemy while in greater force than his own command, the country was impatient at the delay of Sheridan in attacking Early. But we all remember that the nearer the approach of danger to the seat of Government and the loyal States, the more urgent were the people and the Government for action by the protecting Army; and it would not have been surprising if the pressure of public opinion had precipitated a battle even when Early, because of his strength, desired it most. However, good judgment prevailed, and superior management and hard blows on Sheridan's part compensated for the delay.

The battle of the 19th of September was the most sanguinary, and by all means the most important, ever fought in the Valley of Virginia. The battle of Cedar Creek, fought just a month later, was surrounded by incidents which invest it with a more romantic interest than any battle of the war; for like Marengo it was won after having been lost. But the battle of Winchester decided the fate of the Valley. A delay in the movement of the Union infantry permitted the enemy to assemble his troops, and prevented the crushing of Ramseur's division, and the battle was fairly waged, without any of the elements of a surprise, between the concentrated masses of the two armies, the cavalry of the Union forces acting as a turning column of Early's left flank, and aiding in a most important manner in completing the day's success.

Besides the good work done by the 3d Cavalry division in opening the way for the infantry attack and menacing during the day the enemy's communication, the movement of the 1st Cavalry division brought it on the left and rear of the enemy's lines, just at the critical time of the battle. Here this cavalry charged repeatedly by brigade, capturing the artillery taken in the battle, besides colors and many prisoners. The Confederates in their accounts of this and other battles ascribe to the Union cavalry the quality of riding them down and overwhelming them on almost every occasion. In his report of the battle of Winchester Early says: "As soon as the firing was heard in rear of our left flank, the infantry commenced falling back along our whole line;" and in another part of this report, "the enemy's cavalry again charged around my left flank, and the men began to give way again." Writing to Lee from Port Republic three days after his second discomfiture Early used the following language: "The enemy's immense superiority in cavalry and the inefficiency of mine has been the cause of all my disasters."

Most of the facts with regard to the battle of Cedar Creek have been written and rewritten, until by both sides all has been told. On the Union side there has been a difference of opinion in regard to some of the events. This is because of the fact that, like the knights of old, one party is looking at one side of the shield, which is golden, and the others on the side that is only lead; and, more than this, because, unlike the knights of old, those on the golden side are interested in making it all appear golden. Without any desire to open again this discussion (which our author, as far as he goes, treats with distinguished tact and impartiality), and without a desire to detract from any one or to increase the glory of any other, a competent witness in this entire battle feels no hesitancy in asserting that the Union army was beaten in the morning, beyond the repair of its fortunes, but for the arrival of Sheridan. One reviewer of the book before us concludes it was unfortunate that President Lincoln, in his order making Sheridan a Major General in the Army, should have used the word "rout" in describing the condition of the forces after the morning of October 19th. It cannot be considered unfortunate, except in the sense of its being unfortunate to be forced to call a spade a spade. Webster defines the word to mean, as applied to troops, "to

break the ranks of and put them to flight in disorder; to defeat and throw them into confusion." That this had been done on that memorable morning there can be no doubt. This assertion is not made to discredit any one of the different corps of the Union Army. The best troops in the world, under the same circumstances, would probably have been "routed."

Those surprised at Cedar Creek were in different stages of confusion, from left to right, in the proportion in which they had been surprised. It is also known that all the Artillery of the Army, except that which belonged to the Cavalry, had either been captured or gone to the rear. With these facts in view, it may not be important to inquire whether the action would have been renewed if Sheridan had not joined. Certainly it is not desirable to make this inquiry with a view to censuring any one. But if the question is presented with the object of dividing the glory between Sheridan and any other, a most positive protest must be entered by the friends of honest history.

The battle of Tom's Brook, purely a Cavalry affair, which preceded the battle of Cedar Creek, was fought on the 9th of October. It resulted from the increase of the enemy's Cavalry by a division, under Rosser, and ended in the destruction of the Confederate Cavalry. It was doubly important, both in its immediate results and those which accrued at Cedar Creek for a confident and well handled Confederate Cavalry on the morning of the surprise at Cedar Creek, would probably have increased the disaster to the Union forces beyond human repair.

After the battle of Cedar Creek the story of the Shenandoah is short. The clearing out of the remnant of Early's army was merely a question of convenience, and is well described in the book before us. The last organizations of Early's army were dispersed or captured at Waynesboro on March 2, 1865. From that day till the end of the month the time was spent in destroying the enemy's supplies and communications north of and on the James River, including the canal. An idea of the rapid movements and hard work performed by the Cavalry in the busy days of the spring of 1865, can be formed when it is remembered that succeeding these events in the Valley Sheridan fought at Dinwiddie C. H. on the 31st of March, and the following day gained the battle of Five Forks.

The record completed by Mr. Pond is a better piece of history than any of the Scribner series. It is fair in its relation of facts, elevated and dignified in tone, succinct in statement, and in every way entitled to the name of history. In it appear the excellent results (which will be more and more available, as the work is completed,) of the classification and arrangement of the records of the war, now going on in Washington. The volume throughout shows care and thought, and will without doubt take a high and lasting position as part of the history of the civil war.

A MEMBER of the House Military Committee writes, Feb. 10: "It is useless to hope for the Retirement bill for enlisted men being disposed of by this Congress. We have but twenty days more for work and the bill would have to go in its order behind hundreds of bills, not one of which may be reached."

This is discouraging, but not an end to hope. The friends of a just Retirement bill for non-commissioned officers and enlisted men of the Army, deserving of consideration and adequate provision for old age, should take time by the forelock before the next session of Congress and endeavor to have the bill attended to early in that session, and not left to the last days of Congress, when there is not time and perhaps no inclination to discuss it. We shall be pleased to aid such a movement.

A CORRESPONDENT calls attention to the fact that the decision of the Court of Claims Feb. 7, 1883, on the Thornley case is mainly a reprint of Attorney-General against Tyler, and therefore an attempt to reverse that decision of the Supreme Court, wherein it was decided that retired officers are not "doing nothing," but that they are engaged in suffering the results of their devotion to duty, and that, as a principle, "longevity" applies to them as much as to the others. Nor has the Court of Claims any better foothold in law. The payable is indeed fixed for the active list, but the retired officers are expressly (says statute) to be paid by that payable, and by no other payable.

* Campaigns of the Civil War—XI. The Shenandoah Valley in 1864. By George E. Pond, Associate Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1883.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

LIEUT. S. R. Jones, 4th U. S. Artillery, of Fort Adams, gave attention to the duties of Judge Advocate of a general court martial sitting there this week.

LIEUT. John A. Manley, 20th U. S. Inf., and Mrs. Manly, en route to Fort Hays, Kansas, from leave, have been spending a few days with Adjutant Rodman, at Fort Leavenworth.

News comes from Washington that Lieut. General Sheridan and Mrs. Sheridan have been house-hunting there, which points to the likelihood of an approaching change of command for the General.

JUDGE Advocate General D. G. Swaim, U. S. A., has been absent from Washington, at Lawrence, Kansas, called there by the serious illness of Mrs. Swaim.

The appointment of Lieut. C. A. Booth, 1st Infantry, to the Quartermaster's Department, promotes 2d Lieut. F. deL. Carrington, of that regiment, to a 1st Lieutenantcy, and will likely take him from Fort McDowell to Fort Verde, A. T.

THE Retiring Board in the case of 1st Lieut. E. R. Clark, 10th Infantry, of which General O. B. Willcox, U. S. A., is president, was in session at Fort Porter, N. Y., the latter part of this week.

PATMASTER J. P. Willard, U. S. A., rejoined at Buffalo, N. Y., this week from leave.

L. W. A. COLE, who while serving in the Army at Camp Douglas, Utah, published the *Union Vidette*, died Feb. 10 at Providence, R. I.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the approaching marriage of Lieut. James R. Richards, 4th U. S. Cavalry, to Miss Susie Price, of St. Louis, a niece of the wife of Col. R. F. O'Beirne, U. S. A.

AMONG the approaching marriages is that of Miss Kate Hicks, of New York city, niece of Col. Guy V. Henry, to Lieut. P. P. Powell, 9th U. S. Cav.

LIEUT. General Sheridan's brief speech at the dinner to Gen. Sherman last week, is much praised for its modesty and evidence of high purpose.

THE Duke de Morry, a French army officer, arrived in New York this week on the *Labrador*, on a short pleasure tour.

COMDR. Nicoll Ludlow, U. S. N., sailed from New York for Liverpool early this week, on the *Britannic*. Col. Richard Stoble, of England, was a passenger on the same vessel.

THE *Daily Southwestern* says: "Wednesday evening, January 31, the Amateur Dramatic Association of Fort Bayard, N. M., favored a large number of delighted listeners with the well-known vaudeville, 'The Loan of a Lover.' The actors and actresses, well versed in their roles, did admirably. Misses Royall and Martin gave an excellent rendition of their respective characters of Gertrude and Ernestine Rosendahl. Mr. Mizner as Delfe was capital, and Captain Eskridge made a hit as Swyzel. The Peter Spyker of Lieut. Jenkins showed remarkable power on the part of the performer as a character delineator. The piece was a perfect success."

THE *Vancouver Independent* of January 25 says: Dr. Benjamin Munday left the post on the 17th, en route to his station at Fort Klamath. Lieut. J. S. Parke and Sol. E. Sparrow, 21st Inf., on Monday left the post for Fort Klamath, on court martial duty. Captain Frank D. Baldwin, judge advocate, is now busy on inspection duties at headquarters and Portland, and will soon visit the upper country. Captain H. H. Pierce, 21st Inf., and family, from Forest Grove, are at the post, being there to obtain medical attendance for their little girl, who is now reported improving. For lack of better amusement at the post Captain G. W. Evans and other officers are indulging in the illusions of the hope that the 21st Infantry may be ordered East early in the spring.

CAPT. W. A. Miller, 18th Inf., on extended sick leave, is visiting his old home, near Riley Station, Marion county, Kentucky.

By the retirement of Capt. M. Haxtun, U. S. N., Commander John N. Quakenbush, U. S. N., becomes a captain. Maj. E. B. Atwood, U. S. A., has rejoined at Columbus Barracks, Ohio, from a trip to Washington.

ASST. Surgeon Louis W. Crampton, U. S. A., is visiting friends at Georgetown, D. C. He will report in a few weeks to Gen. Hancock for assignment to duty.

GEN. Edwin M. Davis, ex-Governor of Texas, father of Lieut. Britton Davis, 3d U. S. Cavalry, died at Austin, February 7.

MAJ. D. P. Hoop, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., while one of the U. S. Commissioners to the Electrical Congress held in Paris, in 1881, and who while there was tendered and declined the Legion of Honor, has recently been presented by M. Grévy, President of the French Republic, with a beautiful medal, in recognition of his services while a member of the Congress.

ASST. Surgeon J. O. Skinner, U. S. A., has entered upon his duties in the office of Surgeon-General Orans at Washington.

LIEUT. W. J. Nicholson, 7th Cavalry, and bride, are spending a portion of their wedding tour with the groom's father, Capt. Somerville Nicholson, U. S. N., of Georgetown, D. C.

LIEUT. J. D. Nickerson, 17th Inf., of Fort Totten, D. T., has taken charge of the military telegraph line between that post and Larimore.

LIEUT. T. H. Bliss, 1st Artillery, rejoined at Fort Monroe, Va., early this week from a short leave.

LIEUT. J. E. Sobres, Signal Corps, U. S. A., was to rejoin at San Antonio this week from a two weeks' trip North.

LIEUT. H. W. Wheeler, 5th Cav., of Fort Leavenworth, was summoned to Washington the latter part of last week by the dangerous illness of his sister.

LIEUT. E. B. Ives, 19th Infantry, of Fort Clark, Texas, will visit friends in the North to remain until some time in April next.

THE recent promotion of Lieut. Chas. G. Ayres, 10th Cavalry, has not removed him from Fort Davis, Texas, much to the pleasure of his friends there.

THE recent appointment by Gen. Grierson of Lieut. C. L. Cooper, 10th Cavalry, to the regimental adjutancy, has given general satisfaction in the regiment.

ASST. Surgeon B. D. Taylor, U. S. A., of Fort Ringgold, Texas, has left there on a few weeks' leave for the benefit of his health.

LIEUT. H. L. Haskell, 12th U. S. Infantry and family, are still in San Francisco, and expect to remain there for some time to come.

THE health of Surgeon J. J. Woodward, U. S. Army, is still such as to necessitate rest for several months to come.

LIEUT. E. Swift, 5th Cavalry, who has been visiting friends in New York for some time past, reported this week to Gen. Shafter, to conduct recruits to the west, and then to join regimental headquarters at Fort Sidney, Nebraska.

THE fifty-ninth birthday of Major General W. S. Hancock, U. S. A., occurring Wednesday of this week, February 14—St. Valentine's day—was suitably remembered.

A WASHINGTON correspondent writes: "Senator Sherman has got all the letters he has received during the last 20 or 30 years carefully filed away in scrap books, with an index most complete. The letters from his brother, Gen. Sherman, U. S. A., must be very interesting. They number thousands, and were begun when the General was at West Point, and have continued ever since. The love of the brothers for each other is well known among their friends. Neither has a thought that is not some way connected with the other. The letters of Gen. Sherman to his brother during the war will make mighty interesting reading if they are ever printed. They were written in camp—sometimes before a battle and sometimes after one—but they gave the writer's ideas straight from his heart, and told what he thought the same as he would commune with himself."

THE *Baltimore Sun* says: "Lieut. A. G. Paul, U. S. N., will leave his many friends in Baltimore early in March, sail from New York, spend a week in London and two weeks in Paris, and then join the American squadron in the Mediterranean under the new commodore. This appointment is a high compliment to the youthful lieutenant."

THE wedding, February 6, at Leavenworth, Kansas, of Lieutenant William J. Nicholson, 7th U. S. Cavalry, and Miss Hattie Fenlon, was a brilliant and distinguished affair. The ceremony took place at the Cathedral, and the Leavenworth Press in its account says: "First came the ushers, Messrs. F. T. Lynch and W. E. Thomas, Ed. Phelps and Will Farrell. Then the bridegroom, attended by Lieutenant Charles Dodge. Then the other groomsmen, Lieut. Hoyl, Mann, Finley, and Mitchell, all in full uniform. Next followed the bridesmaids, Misses Eva Durfee and Emma Caldwell, Miss Alice Hastings, Misses Clara and Louise Thomas. Lastly came the bride, like Tennyson's Maud 'in gloss of satin in glitter of pearls,' and radiant with youth and happiness, leaning on the arm of her father, the Hon. Thomas P. Fenlon. A superb wedding reception awaited the party at the residence of Mr. Edward Fenlon, uncle of the bride. This was rather private, as none but the relatives and intimate friends were present. Among those invited were Gen. and Mrs. Pope, Gen. and Mrs. Bingham, Capt. and Mrs. Johnson, Lieut. and Mrs. Rodman, Lieut. and Mrs. Wallace, and many others. The reception was by gaslight, and though informal, was largely attended. The happy couple then left on a short tour to Washington and the east."

THE New York Committee on the Centennial Celebration of Evacuation Day, Nov. 25 next, held a joint meeting Feb. 9, and the prospects seem good for a proper observance of the hundredth birthday of the historic event.

THE Leavenworth Times, of Feb. 7, says: "Major-Gen. Pope, accompanied by Col. Bingham and Volkmar, Major Goodfellow, Dr. Fryer, and Capt. Taylor, left Feb. 6 for a tour of inspection to New Mexico. The first stopping place will be Santa Fe, and from there the party will proceed to Fort Cummings, then Wingate, N. M., Fort Bliss and El Paso, Texas."

THE *Arizona Miner*, of Feb. 2, says: "Col. P. P. G. Hall, paymaster, U. S. A., is en route to Whipple from his leave of absence, and is expected Feb. 5. He is one of the most efficient disbursing agents in the Army. His old clerk, Mr. Lynch, is now at Whipple, and is well liked by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance."

ASST. Surg. M. W. Wood, U. S. A., recently ordered to report to Gen. Miles at Vancouver Barracks for assignment to duty, visited New York early this week preparatory to his departure for the Northwest.

CAPT. Otho W. Budd, 4th U. S. Cavalry, was to leave Fort Leavenworth this week to join his troop at Fort Bayard, N. M.

THE *San Francisco Report*, of Feb. 3, says: "Gen. McDowell is expected home during this month."

THE *Omaha Herald* speaks in terms of high praise of the ability and integrity of Mr. William Chambers, recently appointed inspector for the purchase of cavalry horses in the Division of the Missouri.

THE *Vallejo Chronicle* does not approve of the announcements of the deaths of distinguished officers being "slumped" into one General Order, as was recently done at the Navy Department in the case of five rear admirals. It says: "Saving powder in this way may be called economy to the very death."

ASST. Surg. Marcus E. Taylor, U. S. A., is to enter upon a tour of duty at the recruiting depot, David's Island, N. Y. H.

WE regret to learn that Major E. B. Grimes, quartermaster, U. S. A., met with a severe accident last week at Fort Leavenworth. While going to his office his sleigh broke down, and he was thrown to the ground, striking on his head and shoulders. He was carried to his quarters and medical aid summoned, but latest accounts report the injuries not so serious as at first supposed.

LIEUT.-COMDR. John McGowan, U. S. N., enters upon a tour of duty at the League Island Navy-yard.

THE *Northwest News* says: "The following letter was kindly furnished us by Mr. Clark, one of De Long's classmates at the Naval Academy, and warmly attached to that officer: 'We are started and we shall try to do our best. We have a good, solid ship and everything that money and experience could provide. We number thirty-two all told—five officers, a meteorologist, a naturalist, an ice pilot, and twenty-four men as physically perfect as men are ever made. We go to Unalakleet, thence to St. Paul's Island, thence to St. Michael's, and thence to as high a latitude as God will let us reach in two years, keeping the third year in reserve to get back. Keep us in mind, old fellow, and pray for our success, for my heart is set on this thing. Nindermann is with me, and keeps the bridge watch. Have a good time and be careful of your health, and I pray God to bless you. Faithfully yours, GEORGE W. DE LONG.'"

LIEUT. T. M. Woodruff, 5th U. S. Infantry, Mrs. Woodruff, and servant, on route from Fort Keogh, registered at the Merchant, St. Paul, Feb. 9.

MR. J. E. Sanders, brother of the late Col. W. W. Sanders, U. S. A., has returned from Fort Snelling to Philadelphia, bringing with him the little daughter of the deceased officer. Mr. Sanders will shortly return to Fort Snelling to attend to the settlement of his brother's estate.

GEN. E. G. Marshall, U. S. A., passed through New York in the early part of the week, registering at the Albemarle Hotel. He looked well, although suffering from an affection of his sight.

QUARTERMASTER J. G. C. Lee, U. S. A., having rejoined at San Antonio from a short leave has relieved Capt. L. E. Campbell of his duties as acting Chief Quartermaster.

ASST. Surg. T. A. Cunningham, U. S. A., and Lieut. W. A. Kobbe, and R. D. Potts, 3d U. S. Artillery, were busy this week at Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., investigating the circumstances connected with injuries to the Government schooner *Matchless* from a collision with the iron bridge of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad on the night of Jan. 23 last.

LIEUT. S. F. Chase, 3d U. S. Cavalry, has joined his troop at Fort Thomas, A. T., from Whipple Barracks.

LIEUT. G. A. Dodd, 3d Cavalry, of Fort Grant, A. T., has taken temporary command of troop I (Capt. Walker's) at Fort Apache.

MAJOR Nicholas Nolan, 3d Cavalry, has exchanged the genial climate of Fort Davis, Texas, for the not quite so much so of Fort Huachuca, Arizona, of which latter post he has recently assumed command.

THERE being several vacancies in the Medical Department of the Army, Surgeons J. B. Brown, B. A. Clements, and J. H. Janeway, will sit as a board at the Army building, New York, early in March, to examine candidates.

CAPT. Milton Haxtun, U. S. N., at his own request, having the requisite service, passed from the active to the retired list of the Navy Feb. 7.

REAR Admiral C. H. Baldwin, U. S. N., has been the recipient of many congratulations on his recent promotion.

AS we foreshadowed last week the name of 1st Lieut. C. A. Booth, 1st U. S. Infantry, of Fort Verde, A. T., was sent to the Senate, Feb. 10, for the vacant captaincy in the Quartermaster's Department, U. S. A., caused by the recent death of Major Baker. Lieut. Booth is a capable officer, having served during the war as an Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, and in the regular Army since 1867.

PAY Inspector W. W. Williams, U. S. N., of the *Lancaster*, European Station, will return home at an early date. Pay Inspector E. Steward, of the New York Navy Yard, will take his place on the *Lancaster*.

GEN. Edward Hatch, U. S. A., visited New York early in the week, registering at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

THE news that Col. Guy V. Henry, U. S. A., is making a brief visit East will give pleasure to his many friends in New York and elsewhere.

MAJOR David Perry, 6th U. S. Cavalry, lately on leave in New York, reported this week to Major General Hancock for temporary duty. We regret to learn of serious illness in his family.

FROM Denver, Col., "Clyde" writes: "The recent sudden death at Fort Vancouver of Colonel Edward D. Baker, U. S. Army, recalls to my mind many pleasant days spent in a frontier fort where he was quartermaster. Colonel Baker was always a moving and contributing spirit to all entertainments. No gathering was considered complete without him. Jovial, witty, and a true friend, his death may recall to the minds of some their indebtedness to Colonel Baker for timely assistance and friendly offices. 'Deep in the earth, with the cold snow piled upon him,' no blast of censure can reach him there. Naught should be remembered but his charity and kindness of heart, 'which covereth a multitude of sins.'"

THE Georgia Sesqui Centennial Celebration at Savannah this week has, notwithstanding unfavorable weather, proved a decided success. Civil and military organizations were present in large numbers, and doubtless the 3d U. S. Artillery band, which was to be present, added to the general enjoyment.

Asst. Surg. H. G. Burton, U. S. A., on leave from Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., is visiting at Rupert, Vt.

Gen. Augur has recently presented to Sergeant A. W. James, Troop B, 8th Cavalry, at Department Headquarters at San Antonio, the gold medal won by him at the Army rifle contest at Fort Leavenworth last October.

Gen. A. V. Kautz, U. S. A., has started East to join Mrs. Kautz. They will not return to San Francisco until late in the summer.

Comdr. P. F. Harrington, U. S. N., expects to sail for Europe February 21 to take command of the *Juniata*, at Alexandria, Egypt.

The marriage, at Fortress Monroe, Va., Feb. 14, of Lieut. Joseph Garrard, 4th U. S. Artillery, to Miss Minnie B. Lane, daughter of Col. W. B. Lane, U. S. A., a Mexican war hero, was an event at that always charming post, and the officers and their wives, citizen guests, etc., made the most of the occasion. As this is the busy season at the Artillery School Lieut. and Mrs. Garrard will not make any extended wedding trip at present.

Capt. R. P. Hughes, U. S. A., A. D. C. on the staff of Gen. Terry, has been assigned by that officer to temporary charge of the inspection branch of the service in the Department of Dakota until a permanent successor to the late Major Sanders is appointed.

Medical Director H. C. Nelson, U. S. N., registered at the Sturtevant House, New York City, Wednesday of this week.

Professor P. S. Michie, U. S. A., of West Point, delivered an interesting lecture on "Sea Coast Defences" before the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York, at Steinway Hall, on the evening of Feb. 15th. Notwithstanding the inclement weather, there was a good attendance, and the distinguished officer handled his important subject in such a manner as to thoroughly interest his audience, many of whom doubtless found the theme a somewhat novel one to them. Stereopticon views and models of projectiles helped to illustrate the lecture.

The Omaha Herald, referring to our recent statement that "Omaha has taken very well to Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., and he is the recipient of much attention by the denizens of that city," says, "The fact is as the JOURNAL states it to be, and we beg to add with considerable confidence, that Gen. Howard has taken very well to Omaha."

Major Gen. Pope and party arrived in Santa Fe, Feb. 9, on an inspection tour, and were warmly welcomed by Gen. Stanley and staff and numerous citizens.

Some fifteen or twenty members of the Maryland Club gave Lieut. Paul, U. S. N., a complimentary dinner Feb. 10, at the club room, Baltimore, prior to his leaving that city to take his position, where he has recently been called, on the flagship in the European Squadron. It was an agreeable and aesthetic affair. A similar entertainment was given Feb. 12, at the same place by a larger party of his numerous friends.

Asst. Surg. R. C. Newton, U. S. A., has moved from Fort Cummings, N. M., to Fort Sill, I. T.

Lieut. J. G. Ballance, 22d U. S. Infantry, will rejoin at Santa Fe, from leave early in March.

Major Thomas B. Dewees, 2d Cavalry, has been assigned by Gen. Pope to the permanent command of Fort Reno.

Lieut. W. J. Nicholson, 7th Cavalry, and bride, were expected to return to Fort Leavenworth, the latter part of this week.

Major W. B. Slack, U. S. Marine Corps, visited New York this week, stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Major W. T. Gentry, 9th Infantry, has rejoined at Fort Niobrara, from his tour at Fort D. A. Russell.

Lieut. C. A. Johnson, 14th Infantry, of the Uncompahgre, Col., will likely remain East until June or July next.

Capt. D. D. Wheeler, U. S. A., has resumed permanent duty at St. Paul, having been relieved by Gen. Terry from the board to purchase Cavalry horses.

Asst. Surg. G. W. Adair, U. S. A., will vary his medical duties next week by performing those of Judge Advocate of an important General Court Martial, to sit at Fort Missoula, Montana.

Lieut. R. T. Emmet, U. S. A., A. D. C. to Gen. Pope, is visiting friends in the East, and returns to Fort Leavenworth the latter part of February. He was Col. Coppinger's "best man" at the recent wedding.

Lieut. C. F. Roe, 11th Infantry, has taken charge of recruiting matters at Camp Poplar River, Montana.

Paymaster C. A. McDaniel, U. S. N., registered at the Albemarle Hotel, New York, early in the week.

Adj. A. B. Dyer, 4th U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Fort Adams, R. I., the latter part of the week from a short leave.

Lieut. C. H. Ingalls, 6th U. S. Infantry, left David's Island this week for San Francisco with a detachment of recruits, after which he has been ordered to join his company at Fort Hall, Idaho.

Paymaster J. P. Willard, U. S. A., visited New York this week, returning to Buffalo from a short leave.

The recent promotion of Lieut. C. B. Satterlee, U. S. Artillery, carries him to Battery M (Simola's), at New Orleans, but he will likely be permitted to serve out his tour as Professor at the Military Academy, Orchard Lake, Mich.

Adjutant J. B. Kerr, 6th Cavalry, on leave at Danville, Ky., is expected soon at Fort Lowell, A. T.

Lieut. H. R. Anderson, 4th U. S. Artillery, of Fort Preble, will report to Gen. Hancock at Governor's Island, March 1, to receive the gold medal which he won last year at rifle practice.

Lieut. M. O'Brien, 4th U. S. Artillery, was expected back at Fort Warren, Mass., this week from a six weeks' leave, spent mainly in New Mexico.

Capt. Edward Maguire, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., projects a trip to Europe in April to spend the summer abroad.

Maj. C. H. Carlton, 3d U. S. Cavalry, is on duty at Fort Lowell, Arizona, although not in the best of health.

Lieut. J. E. H. Foster, 3d Cavalry, on leave from Fort Leavenworth, is residing at Pittsburgh, Pa.

Capt. Thos. F. Quinn, 4th Infantry, has left Fort Omaha, on a few weeks' leave.

Lieut. C. R. Noyes, 9th Infantry, of Fort D. A. Russell, will visit the East—likely to remain until next June.

Gen. H. B. Carrington, U. S. A., attended the annual dinner of the Yale Alumni Association, at Boston, Feb. 12.

Rear-Admiral C. H. Baldwin, U. S. N., sailed from New York Feb. 14 on the *Arizona* to relieve Rear-Admiral Nicholson in command of the European Station. Mrs. Baldwin accompanied him.

Secretary of the Navy Chandler passed through New York this week en route to attend the funeral of the late Marshall Jewell. He registered at the Windsor Hotel.

Inspector-Gen. Roger Jones, U. S. A., visited Fort McHenry, Baltimore, and Washington this week on inspection service.

Gen. H. J. Hunt, U. S. A., and the officers stationed at Newport Barracks, speak with much praise of the hospitality shown them by the residents of Newport during the floods which have driven most of them from their quarters and caused much suffering.

Capt. R. H. Hall, 10th U. S. Infantry, is absent from Fort Porter in New Hampshire, inspecting the militia of that State.

The recent visit of Maj. Gen. Pope and staff to New Mexico gave occasion for a reception in his honor by the Army officers stationed at Santa Fe, at Post Hall, on the evening of Feb. 9. The hall was specially decorated for the occasion, and the attendance of ladies, officers and citizens was large. Amongst the ladies present were Mrs. L. P. Bradley, Mrs. Lawton, Mrs. Stanley, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Woodruff, Mrs. Atkinson, etc. Amongst the Army officers were Maj. Gen. Pope, Col. Volkmar, Gen. Bingham, Gen. Stanley, Maj. Tucker, Capt. Dickey, Capt. Marshall, Capt. Woodruff, Capt. Lawton, Lieuts. O. M. Smith, Ballance, Patten, etc. The civilian list included the prominent gentlemen and ladies of Santa Fe and vicinity. A banquet was also proposed in honor of Gen. Pope, but his short stay at Santa Fe prevented.

Lieut. James B. Goe, 13th U. S. Infantry, is soon to assume the duties of Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Indiana Asbury University, Greencastle, in place of Lieut. W. R. Hamilton, 5th Artillery, who joins his battery at Fort Wadsworth.

Lieut. J. R. Cranston, 10th Infantry, has had his leave extended to May 5 next, by which time the condition of navigation on the upper lakes will doubtless permit him to reach Fort Brady, Mich.

Lieut. G. L. Anderson, 4th U. S. Artillery, left Fort Adams, R. I., Feb. 15, to be absent for a week.

Major A. E. Bates, U. S. A., and Mrs. Bates came from Washington to New York this week to attend the funeral of their relative, the late Gov. Morgan.

Major Patchett, 2d West India Regiment, British army, arrived in New York from Jamaica, Feb. 15.

Mrs. Kautz, wife of Gen. A. V. Kautz, U. S. A., and family arrived in New York on the City of Para from Aspinwall, Feb. 15.

Lieut.-Col. Deems, 4th Artillery, rejoined at Fort Adams, R. I., the latter part of this week from a brief absence.

The following Army and Navy officers registered at the Ebbitt House during the week ending Feb. 15: Army—Lieut. B. Eldridge, 10th Infantry; Capt. Charles Holmes, retired; Lieut. A. H. Nave, 7th Cavalry; Colonel J. C. Duane, Engineer Corps; Asst. Surg. M. E. Taylor, Medical Department; Lieut. T. B. McCoy, 24th Infantry. Navy—Lieut. W. H. Turner, Comdr. P. H. Cooper, Master F. H. Holmes, Commo. J. H. Upshur, Lieut. A. R. Couden, Lieut. F. P. Gilmore, Chief Engineer G. W. Melville, Comdr. H. B. Robeson, Ensign W. G. David, Chief Engineer J. W. Thomson.

Paymaster General Rochester has recovered somewhat from the effects of the fall he had, some days ago, from a street car, but he is still unable to leave his house. Col. Carey is acting as Paymaster General during his illness.

The following Army officers registered at the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Feb. 17: Captain L. W. Crampton, Medical Department, 3406 N street N. W., on leave; 2d Lieut. W. J. Nicholson, 7th Cavalry, No. 2 Cooke place, on leave; Major F. Van Vliet, 10th Cavalry, 819 15th street N. W., on leave; Captain Charles W. Raymond, Engineers, Ebbitt House, on duty with Light House Board; Captain Charles A. Wilkoff, 11th Infantry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Colonel S. B. Holabird, Q. M. D., 1606 K street N. W., on leave; Captain James N. Wheelan, 2d Cavalry, 1302 Connecticut avenue, on route to station; 1st Lieut. G. S. Grimes, 2d Artillery, Ebbitt House, on leave; 2d Lieutenant H. W. Wheeler, 5th Cavalry, 2024 G street N. W., on leave.

Lieut.-Comdr. Thos. Perry, U. S. N., took over at Baltimore, Feb. 13, the duties of assistant lighthouse inspector in place of Lieut. Paul, who goes to Europe.

Col. W. P. Craighill, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., returned to Baltimore this week from a trip to New York and Montreal on public business.

Commodore Thomas T. Phelps, U. S. N., will be detached from the command of the Navy-yard, Mare Island, on the 28th of February, and ordered to command the South Atlantic station.

Comdr. H. D. Manley, U. S. Navy, whose unfortunate loss

of hearing has caused his retirement, has announced in a circular to the officers of the Navy, and his friends generally, his engagement in the real estate business in Washington. Until he secures a suitable office near the Ebbitt House, his address will be at his residence, No. 1344 19th street, N. W.

M. O. L. U. S.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Commandery, Loyal Legion at Boston, Feb. 7, the following were elected members: Chief Engineer H. W. Fitch, U. S. N.; Surgeon J. Russell, U. S. V.; Surgeon G. G. Tarbell, U. S. V.; Captain R. H. Weld, U. S. V., and Ensign C. A. Gore, U. S. N. Among recent contributors to the Library of this Command is Rear Admiral G. H. Preble, U. S. N. Colonel H. Gardner, U. S. A. (retired) and General G. W. West, U. S. V., have been transferred from this to the District of Columbia Commandery.

A distinguished naval officer writes us: "The installation of the Ohio Legion was more than a passing event. Great preparations were made. Ex-President Hayes presided, and everything was a success in spite of the flood. I see no good reason why this order, containing as it does the loyal officers of both services, should not survive many generations and finally take the place of the old Order of the Cincinnati, which was organized in 1783, and is gradually dying out."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT DOUGLAS, UTAH.

February 12, 1883.

The white mantle of winter, with the polar accompaniment of 30 deg. below zero, has been visiting this post of late. Col. Mason, Gen. Howard's popular inspector-general, has been here, after inspecting the quartermaster's depots at Cheyenne and Ogdenburg, being the guest of Gen. McCook, whose residence is the headquarters for hospitality. On the way West he also stopped at Laramie city, to examine into the conduct of a recruit named Heath en route from Fort Robinson to Fort Washakie some time since. Heath, it seems, was on the Union Pacific train with two comrades, and being under a malign influence, drew his revolver and attempted to bulldoze the conductor and the entire train. The conductor put him off at Laramie city, where the city officials put him in jail. Heath is to be taken from Laramie to Fort D. A. Russell and there tried by court-martial. Major Eckels, the new paymaster, has got comfortably settled after his recent pay trips, and likes the post very well. T.

EXTRA AND DUTY DETAILS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Your reference of last week as to latitude in extra and duty details at military posts being an incentive to desertion was altogether sound. Where this class of duty is fairly and economically administered it is a benefit to the service; where otherwise, a positive detriment, and the worst of it is, company commanders are obliged to stand idly by and see the evil with no power to remedy it.

Captain WRAGGE.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

Pay Inspector Edwin Stewart, in charge of the Provision and Clothing Department of this yard, has been detached and ordered as Fleet Paymaster of the European Squadron; Mr. Firing, the present Chief Clerk of Provisions and Clothing, who has been with Pay Inspector Stewart for a number of years, will go with him as Pay Clerk. It is not known who will take Mr. Stewart's place here.

The schoolship *Saratoga* is expected to sail either Friday or Saturday, if the weather permits. She has been completely overhauled and repaired during the time allowed for her to remain at this yard.

The Coast Survey steamer *Blake* arrived at the yard Wednesday morning, for stores, general repairs, etc.

Lieut. D. W. Davis, formerly on duty at this yard, has reported for duty on the receiving ship *Colorado*.

Commodore Jas. E. Jouett paid a flying visit to his friends at the yard during the early part of the week.

A large quantity of timber, just received for the Construction Department, is being stored in a vacant lot, corner of Morris and Fourth avenues.

Commodore J. H. Upshur, commandant, has returned from a trip to Washington.

The officers, clerks, etc., were paid off on Thursday, 15th, for the first half of February.

The board, of which Commodore S. B. Luce is president, after hearing the views of certain citizens as regards selling this yard, which met at the City Hall, Mayor's Office, a few days since, paid a visit to the yard and afterwards left for Washington. It is thought no change will be recommended regarding this yard, except to sell the land between the Marine Barracks and the Hospital.

So far this winter no dances or receptions have been given by the officers attached to the yard or ships. It has been one of the most quiet seasons known for several years.

THE NAVAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The officers of the Medical Corps of the U. S. Navy, in order to establish more intimate social and friendly relations among its members, to furnish occasions for the interchange of professional experiences, and to assist each other in scientific inquiry and research, formed an association, to be entitled "The Naval Medical Society," in which every officer of the Medical Corps shall have the right of membership upon notifying the Secretary that such is his desire. At the annual meeting held January 4, 1883, the following officers of the Society for the current year were elected: President—Albert L. Gihon, M. D.; Vice-President—John M. Browne, M. D.; Secretary—James M. Flint, M. D.; Business Committee—Thomas J. Turner, M. D., Adolph A. Hoeling, M. D., Thomas H. Streets, M. D.

The first number of "The Proceedings of the Naval Medical Society" contains the following papers: "Etiology and its Relation to Line of Duty," two papers, by Dr. J. M. Flint; "On Line of duty," by Dr. T. D. Myers; "Notes Upon the Term 'Line of Duty,'" by Dr. T. J. Turner. At the conclusion of an animated discussion upon the last named paper, which was read at the meeting at the Museum of Hygiene, Washington, Nov. 2, 1882, the following resolution, offered by Dr. Gihon, was adopted:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the Naval Medical Society that a man or officer who is receiving pay, and is subject to orders, and who becomes disabled by disease or injury during his military career, should be considered as incurring his disability in the line of duty; the disease or injury not being the result of any act of personal imprudence or impropriety, or existing prior to his entrance into the service, or the consequence of inherited disease."

THE ARMY.

G. O. 8, H. Q. A., Feb. 12, 1883.

In announcing to the Army the result of the competition for the "Nevada Trophy," had during the year ending Oct. 31, 1882, the General of the Army, while highly gratified at the handsome scores made by the competing companies, as shown by the annexed tabular statement, regrets that there was no competition for the beautiful trophy in four of the departments, and hopes that in future all the departments will be represented in the competition.

The "Nevada Trophy" is awarded to Co. B, 21st Infantry, and the commanding officer Battery K, 3d Artillery, in whose possession the trophy now is, will send it by express to the commanding general Department of the Columbia, who, upon receipt, will order the commanding officer of the winning company to repair to his headquarters to receive the trophy and hold it until the result of the next competition is announced.

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

Tabulated record of competition for the "Nevada Trophy."

Regiment and Department.	Total number of men firing.	Average aggregate score.	Per cent. of men firing to aggregate score.	Total score.	Per cent.
Co. B, 21st Inf., Columbia...	38	47.25	80.47	3,323	87.42
Co. G, 1st Cav., California...	53	65.80	80	4,513	85.15
Co. C, Engrs., E. B.	39	48	81.25	3,247	83.25
Co. K, 3d Art., South.....	27	33	81.8	2,176	80.57
Co. K, 9th Inf., Platte.....	33	41	80	2,428	73.57
Co. A, 7th Inf., Dakota....	36	44	81.82	2,560	71.11

G. O. 1, MIL. DIV. OF THE PACIFIC, Jan. 30, 1883.

Post Quartermasters will attend personally to the weighing and measuring of all fuel delivered under contract at their respective posts, and satisfy themselves, by personal examination, before signing any voucher for payment of fuel, that the quantity is correct and the quality in accordance with the requirements of the contract.

G. O. 9, H. Q. A., Feb. 13, 1883.

By direction of the Secretary of War, par. 240 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows:

240. The cause of discharge, and the soldier's age at its date, shall be stated in the body of the discharge certificate. The soldier's character must be carefully described according to the facts. Whenever the man is unfit for re-enlistment because of bad conduct, the space in the discharge certificate left for description of character must be cut off. The officer signing the character on the discharge certificate of an enlisted man will state thereon whether or not the soldier is married. In order to prevent fraud, and to better establish the identity of the soldier, the officer discharging him will cause the soldier's signature to be placed on the margin of the discharge certificate; when the man cannot write, the officer will so state, giving, if possible, some peculiar mark the soldier may have on his person.

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

G. O. 10, H. Q. A., Feb. 14, 1883.

The following order has been received from the War Department:

By direction of the President of the United States so much of the State of California as is now embraced within the limits of the Department of Arizona is transferred to the Department of California.

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

G. O. 3, DEPT. OF ARIZONA, Feb. 3, 1883.

Publishes the boundaries of the Hualpai Indian Reservation.

G. O. 2, DEPT. OF DAKOTA, Jan. 26, 1883.

Publishes letter from A. G. O. of Dec. 20, 1882, relative to the exchange of Subsistence funds for disbursing officer's checks, conveying following remarks of Sec. of Treasury: "The matter has been carefully considered and there appears to be nothing in the accompanying papers to cause a change in the views heretofore expressed on this subject." These were in effect that the "practice is objectionable and should not be adopted;" and that "the authority conferred upon the Secretary of the Treasury by Section 3620 of the Revised Statutes, seems to relate only to the manner in which public moneys entrusted to a disbursing officer shall be kept, not disposed of, by exchanging for checks of another disbursing officer for the convenience of depositing, and such an exchange of funds is apparently prohibited by Sections 5438 and 5490, when construed in connection with Section 3651, Revised Statutes."

The advisability of requesting legislation on the subject is under consideration.

Under the above so much of G. O. 9 of 1882, as authorizing Subsistence funds to be exchanged for Paymaster's checks, is revoked, and such funds will be forwarded in the best way available under existing laws. Officers who may be obliged to keep subsistence funds in their possession beyond the end of the month, by reason of the impossibility of forwarding them, will make application for authority to do so, under Section 3620, R. S.

CIRCULAR 4, DEPT. OF THE PLATTE, Feb. 2, 1883.

All communications sent to Dept. Hdqrs. by officers involving questions or matters, generally, requiring the decision or action of the Dept. Comdr. will be addressed to the A. A. G., and all communications received by staff officers serving at these Hdqrs. from superior Hdqrs. bearing upon the administration of their respective departments will be submitted, before action is taken, to him.

G. O. 2, DEPT. OF CALIFORNIA, Jan. 31, 1883.

Boards of Survey directed in A. R. 222 (amended in G. O. 190, A. G. O., n. o. of 1882), to inquire into the circumstances attendant upon desertions, will, in the separate special reports for each individual case intended for Department Headquarters, embrace specially designated replies to inquiries relative to the deserter.

Hereafter no enlisted man will be reported on the records as a deserter until after a Board has pronounced that, in view of the facts laid before it, it is satisfied the case is one of desertion.

By command of Major-Gen. Schofield:

J. C. KELTON, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

GENERAL OFFICERS.—The Department Commander, accompanied by Capt. D. M. Taylor, Ord. Dept., A. D. C., will proceed from Fort Leavenworth, to make an inspection of the posts in the District of New Mexico (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—Major George B. Dandy, Depot Q. M. at Saint Louis, Mo., will proceed to Quincy, Ill., on business connected with the National Cemetery at that place (S. O. 31, Feb. 9, D. M.).

Lieut. Col. J. D. Bingham will proceed to such points in the District of New Mexico as may be found necessary in the transaction of the public business with which he has been charged (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

Capt. John F. Rodgers, military storekeeper, will proceed from Washington, D. C., to Philadelphia, Penn., and thence to Newark, N. J., on public business (S. O., Feb. 10, W. D.). Superintendent John S. Ferguson, recently appointed, will proceed to Jefferson City, Mo., and assume charge of the National Cemetery at that place (W. D., Q. M. General's Office, Feb. 14, 1883).

Capt. A. S. Kimball, Q. M. Dept., is designated to take charge, until further orders, of the public money and property for which the late Major E. D. Baker, Q. M. Dept., was responsible at his decease, as Chief Q. M. of Columbia and Depot Q. M. at Vancouver Barracks (S. O. 7, Jan. 27, D. Columbia.).

PAY DEPARTMENT.—Major William E. Greary, Paymtr., having completed the duty for which he was ordered to Prescott, A. T., will return to his proper station—Tucson, A. T. (S. O. 10, Feb. 6, D. A.).

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.—Capt. C. A. Woodruff, C. S., member G. C. M., at Fort Garland, Colo., Feb. 12 (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

Leave of absence for twenty-four days, Capt. Charles P. Egan (S. O., Feb. 2, D. A.).

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—Capt. Culien Bryant will proceed to Portland, Ore., and return on Jan. 30, upon public business (S. O. 8, Jan. 29, D. Columbia.).

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—Asst. Surg. J. J. Cochran, Judge Advocate G. C. M., at Fort Garland, Colo., Feb. 12 (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

A. A. Surg. F. S. Dewey is relieved from duty at Fort Craig, N. M., and will proceed to Fort Union, N. M., for duty (S. O. 29, Feb. 7, D. M.).

A. A. Surg. L. R. Knapp is relieved from further duty at Cantonment on the Uncompahgre, Colo., and will repair to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., for annulment of contract (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

Capt. Augustus A. De Loffre, asst. surg., is relieved from further duty in the Dept. of Missouri (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

Asst. Surg. R. C. Newton is relieved from duty at Fort Cummings, N. M., and will proceed to Fort Sill, I. T., for duty (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

A Board of Medical Officers, to consist of Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Brown, surg.; Major Bennett A. Clements, surg.; Major John H. Janeway, surg., is constituted to meet in N. Y. City on March 1, 1883, for the examination of assistant surgeons for promotion and of candidates for admission into the Medical Corps. Majora Clements and Janeway will discharge their duties on the board in addition to their present duties (S. O., Feb. 10, W. D.).

Surg. B. E. Fryer will proceed to such points in the Dist. of New Mex. as may be found necessary in the transaction of the public business with which he has been charged (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

Major Francis L. Town is relieved from duty at Fort Walla Walla, and will report to the C. O., Vancouver Barracks, for duty as post surgeon (S. O. 7, Jan. 27, D. Columbia.).

Hospital Steward August Herbst, now at Governor's Island, N. Y. H., will proceed to Fort Adams, R. I., for duty at that post.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.—Leave of absence for eight months, to take effect April 15, 1883, with permission to go beyond sea, is granted Captain Edward Maguire (S. O., Feb. 12, W. D.).

SIGNAL CORPS.—A despatch from Indianapolis says: "Otto Schullz, in charge of the signal-service station in Indianapolis, died yesterday of pneumonia. He was one of the best informed men in the corps, an enthusiastic student and a general favorite. The board of trade has asked Gen. Hazen to return Sergt. Wappenhaus of Detroit here to succeed him."

THE LINE.

3RD CAVALRY, Colonel Albert G. Brackett.

In the case of Sergt. Harvey Fulton, Troop A, 3d Cav., found guilty of desertion and theft before a G. C. M. convened at Fort Lowell, A. T., by S. O. 173, series of 1882, D. A., so much of the sentence as imposes dishonorable discharge is remitted, and the forfeiture of pay and allowances imposed, is mitigated to a forfeiture of \$39 of his pay, on the ground that he served for over nine years in the 3d Cav., that during this time his character has been excellent in every respect, and that the circumstances attending the absence of the accused show that he was suffering from mental aberration, and there is a conspicuous lack of evidence of any intent to defraud either his company or the United States (G. O. M. O. 1, Feb. 1, D. A.).

The C. O. of Fort Leavenworth, Kas., will grant a furlough for two months to Private Isaac Boles, Troop B (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

The C. O. of Fort Leavenworth, Kas., will grant a furlough for two months to Private Lane H. Bloomer, Troop B, to take effect after his re-enlistment (S. O. 29, Feb. 7, D. M.).

The Supt. Mounted Recruiting Service will cause forty recruits to be prepared and forwarded to the Dept. of Arizona for assignment to the 3d Cav., as follows: Twenty three to Wilcox, five to Holbrook, nine to Ashfork, and three to Bowie Station, A. T. (S. O., Feb. 10, W. D.).

Private John B. Huntley, Troop B, died Feb. 4 of inflammation of the lungs at Fort Leavenworth, and was buried at that post Feb. 6.

5TH CAVALRY, Colonel Wesley Merritt.

Capt. S. C. Kellogg, president, and 1st Lieut. Chas. D. Parkhurst, member, G. C. M., at Fort McKinney, Wy. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. P.).

1st Sergt. Hampton M. Rosek, Troop F, will report in person, Feb. 16, 1883, to the recorder of the Board of Officers

convened by par. 1, S. O. 16, D. P., for examination (S. O. 16, Feb. 9, D. P.).

Leave of Absence.—Twenty days, to apply for extension of one month, 2d Lieut. H. W. Wheeler, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 30, Feb. 8, D. M.).

6TH CAVALRY, Col. Eugene A. Carr.

Major David Perry is assigned to duty at Hdqrs. Dept. of East, Governor's Island, N. Y. H. (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel Samuel D. Sturgis.

1st Lieut. E. A. Garlington, Fort Buford, D. T., is relieved from duty in the Dept. of Dakota, and will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the Chief Signal Officer for duty in connection with the proposed relief expedition to Lady Franklin Bay, Grinnell Land (S. O. 29, Feb. 12, D. D.).

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.

The C. O. of Fort Riley, Kas., will grant a furlough for three months to Sergt. Madison Ingomar, Troop D (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.).

Leave of Absence.—Fourteen days, Major Guy V. Henry, Fort Sill, I. T., to take effect upon his discharge from further attendance as witness before the U. S. Court at Fort Smith, Ark. (S. O. 29, Feb. 7, D. M.).

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel George P. Andrews.

1st Lieut. Allyn Capron, member, and 2d Lieut. W. C. Rafferty, J. A. of G. C. M., at Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16 (S. O. 26, Feb. 15, D. E.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, with permission to leave the limits of the Dept. of Columbia, and to apply for extension of one month, Capt. Frank E. Taylor, Vancouver Barracks, W. T. (S. O. 7, Jan. 27, D. Columbia.).

2ND ARTILLERY, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

Major S. S. Elder, president, and 2d Lieut. E. H. Catlin, member, G. C. M., at Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16 (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

3RD ARTILLERY, Col. Frederick T. Dent.

2d Lieut. W. Loveridge, member, G. C. M., at Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16 (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

4TH ARTILLERY, Colonel George W. Getty.

Capt. G. B. Rodney, president; Capt. Edward Field, J. W. Roder, 1st Lieut. G. G. Greenough, I. H. Walker, S. W. Taylor, 2d Lieut. Clarence Deems, members, and 1st Lieut. S. R. Jones, J. A. of G. C. M., at Fort Adams, R. I., Feb. 14 (S. O. 25, Feb. 12, D. E.).

Capt. J. Campbell and 1st Lieut. A. S. Cummins, members, G. C. M., at Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16 (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

1st Lieut. H. R. Anderson will report in person at Hdqrs. Dept. of East, March 1, 1883, to receive the prize won by him in the competitions in rifle firing for places in the Department team of 1882 (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

5TH ARTILLERY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.

Capt. Charles Morris and 1st Lieut. A. W. Vogdes, members, G. C. M., at Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16 (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

2d Lieut. W. R. Hamilton is relieved as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Indiana Asbury University, Greencastle, Ind., and will proceed to join his battery (S. O., Feb. 14, W. D.).

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel William P. Carlin.

Capt. William H. Bisbee, president; Capt. Gerhard L. Lubin, 1st Lieut. Robert H. Young, and 2d Lieut. Edward H. Brown, members, G. C. M., at Fort Bridger, Wy. T., Feb. 13 (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. P.).

Capt. Horace Neide is relieved as member of the Board of Officers convened by par. 1, S. O. 16, D. P. (S. O. 16, Feb. 9, D. P.).

6TH INFANTRY, Colonel Alex. McD. McCook.

2d Lieut. Charles H. Ingalls is assigned to command a detachment of General Service recruits ordered to leave David's Island, N. Y. H., Feb. 15, 1883, for Fort Omaha, Neb., for assignment (Order 25, Feb. 12, Rec. Depot, David's Island, N. Y. H.).

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.

2d Lieut. Geo. W. Melver, member, and 1st Lieut. A. B. Johnson, J. A. of G. C. M., at Fort Bridger, Wy. T., Feb. 13 (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. P.).

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. James B. Jackson, one month (S. O. 15, Feb. 9, M. D. M.).

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.

Leave of Absence.—Two months, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Div. of Pacific and to apply for extension of four months, Col. A. V. Kautz, Angel Island, Cal. (S. O. 15, Feb. 2, M. D. P.).

9TH INFANTRY, Colonel James Van Vleet.

Capt. Leonard Hay, Alpheus H. Bowman, 1st Lieut. James McEl Stembel, members, and 1st Lieut. William E. Hofman, J. A. of G. C. M., at Fort McKinney, Wy. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. P.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of three months, 2d Lieut. Charles R. Noyes (S. O. 16, Feb. 9, D. P.).

10TH INFANTRY, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. James R. Cranston, extended to May 5, 1883 (S. O., Feb. 14, W. D.).

11TH INFANTRY, Colonel Richard I. Dodge.

Leave of Absence.—One month, 2d Lieut. R. J. C. Irvine, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 30, Feb. 8, D. M.).

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.

1st Lieut. A. G. Tassin, member, G. C. M., at Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16 (S. O. 26, Feb. 13, D. E.).

13TH INFANTRY, Colonel Luther P. Bradley.

2d Lieut. James B. Goe, now on leave of absence, is detailed as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Indiana Asbury University, Greencastle, Ind. (S. O., Feb. 14, W. D.).

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel George P. Buell.

A charge of desertion having been erroneously entered against Recruit Charles Quigley, now at Fort Snelling, he is

restored to duty without trial, it appearing that he did not desert nor attempt to do so (S. O. 24, Feb. 3, D. D.)
Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Samuel S. Pagus, further extended one month (S. O., Feb. 12, W. D.)

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Chas. C. Gilbert.

1st Lieut. J. D. Nickerson, Fort Totten, D. T., is detailed for duty in charge of the Military Telegraph line from that post to Larimore, D. T., in addition to his other duties (S. O. 25, Feb. 5, D. D.)

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

The C. O. Fort Clark, Tex., will grant a furlough for three months, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Mil. Div. of Missouri, to Private Frank Finly, Co. B, to take effect after re-enlistment (S. O. 15, Feb. 6, D. T.)
 The Supt. General Recruiting Service will cause forty recruits to be forwarded to San Antonio, Tex., for the 19th Inf. (S. O., Feb. 9, W. D.)

21ST INFANTRY, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.

2d Lieut. John S. Parke, Jr., now at Fort Klamath, will relieve 1st Lieut. J. W. Duncan from the detached service with Co. C, contemplated in par. 3, S. O. 160, series of 1832, D. Columbia. Upon final adjournment of the C. G.-M. now in session at Fort Klamath, Lieut. Duncan will rejoin his company for duty at Vancouver Bks, without delay (S. O. 9, Jan. 31, D. Columbia.)

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.

Capt. C. J. Dickey, president; Capt. J. B. Irvine, 1st Lieut. C. C. Casick, 2d Lieut. R. N. Getty and J. R. Chapman, members, G. C.-M. at Fort Garland, Colo., Feb. 12 (S. O. 28, Feb. 5, D. M.)
 The C. O. of Fort Marcy, N. M., will grant a furlough for four months to Sergt. Gustave Fritz, Co. E (S. O. 30, Feb. 8, D. M.)

24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.

2d Lieut. Charles Dodge, Jr., having been unavoidably delayed one day in returning to his station, Fort Leavenworth, Kas., from the leave of absence granted him in S. O. 18, from Hdqrs Dept. of Missouri, that leave of absence is extended to cover the unauthorized absence (S. O. 31, Feb. 9, D. M.)

General Courts-Martial.—At Fort Garland, Colo., Feb. 12. Detail: Five officers of the 23d Inf., and one of the Sub. Dept.

At Fort Bridger, W. T., Feb. 13. Detail: Four officers of the 4th Inf., and two of the 7th Inf.

At Fort McKinney, W. T., Feb. 19. Detail: Four officers of the 9th Inf., and two of the 5th Cav.

At Fort Adams, R. I., Feb. 14. Detail: Eight officers of the 4th Art.

At Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 16. Detail: Two officers each of the 2d Art., 4th Art., 5th Art., and 1st Art., and one each of the 3d Art. and 12th Inf.

Special Inspectors Appointed.—1st Lieut. W. C. Manning, 23d Inf., at the Q. M. Depot at Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 31, Feb. 9, D. M.)

Lieut.-Col. H. C. Merriam, 2d Inf., at Fort Spokane, Wash. T. (S. O. 7, Jan. 27, D. Columbia.)

Boards of Survey.—At Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 7. Detail: Major W. H. Tucker, Paymaster; Capt. C. A. Woodruff, C. S., and 2d Lieut. G. H. Patton, 23d Inf. (S. O. 12, Feb. 7, D. N. M.)

At Hdqrs Dept. of Columbia, Jan. 29. Detail: Capt. Samuel T. Cushing, Sub. Dept.; Capt. Cullen Bryant, Ord. Dept., and 1st Lieut. Oscar F. Long, 5th Inf., A. D. C. (S. O. 7, Jan. 27, D. Columbia.)

At the Q. M. Depot, Vancouver Bks, Wash. T., Jan. 31, for the purpose of examining the lot of twenty draft mules recently bought by the Quartermaster's Department for service at the Vancouver Depot. Detail: Capt. Timothy E. Wilcox, Med. Dept.; 1st Lieut. Frederick Schwatka, 3d Cav., A. D. C., and 1st Lieut. George W. Goethals, Corps of Engrs. (S. O. 8, Jan. 29, D. Columbia.)

At Fort Thomas, Feb. 12. Detail: Capt. Peter D. Vroom and 1st Lieut. George F. O'Neal, 3d Cav., and Asst. Surg. Edward C. Carter. Orders 23, dated Camp Price, A. T., July 2, 1882, appointing a former board to investigate this matter, are, in consequence of the abandonment of the camp named, annulled (S. O. 19, Feb. 6, D. A.)

At Fort Oster, M. T., Feb. 19, to examine into the loss, by fire, Nov. 17, 1882, of certain ordnance and signal property at Merrill, M. T. Detail: Capt. S. M. Swiger, 1st Lieut. F. W. Sibley, and 2d Lieut. F. D. Holton, 2d Cav. (S. O. 28, Feb. 10, D. D.)

At the Sub-istence Depot, Army Building, N. Y. City, Feb. 19. Detail: Col. H. F. Clarke, Sub. Dept.; Capt. Warren C. Beach, 11th Inf., and Capt. Thomas Ward, 1st Art., A. A. Insp.-Gen. (S. O. 28, Feb. 15, D. E.)

Board of Officers.—At Fort McKavett, Tex., Feb. 10, for the examination of Sergt. Ernest Pich, Co. D, 16th Inf., an applicant for appointment as Hospital Steward. Detail: Asst. Surg. J. A. Finley and Asst. Surg. A. L. Buffington (S. O. 14, Feb. 3, D. T.)

Board of Examination.—A Board of Officers, to consist of Lieut.-Col. Edwin C. Mason, 4th Inf.; Major Isaac D. De-Russy, 4th Inf.; Capt. Robert H. Montgomery, 5th Cav.; Capt. Horace Neide, 4th Inf.; Capt. Charles R. Barnett, A. Q. M., and 1st Lieut. Dan. C. Kingman, Corps of Engrs., will assemble at Hdqrs Dept. of Platte, Feb. 16, 1883, to make a preliminary examination into the claims and qualifications for promotion of such non-commissioned officers as may be ordered before it (S. O. 16, Feb. 9, D. P.)

Lieut.-Col. M. M. Blunt and Capt. Gaines Lawson, 25th Inf.; Capt. Frank G. Smith, 4th Art.; Capt. S. E. Blunt, Ord. Dept., and 1st Lieut. John A. Lundeen, 4th Art., are appointed a Board for the purpose of examining such meritorious non-commissioned officers as may be duly recommended for promotion in the Army, and ordered by the Comdr. Dept. of Dakota to appear before it. The Board will assemble at Fort Snelling, Minn., March 15 (S. O. 29, Feb. 12, D. D.)

Military Prisoners.—Military Prisoner Samuel P. Burbank, entitled to an abatement of five days per month for continuous good conduct, may be discharged from the Fort Leavenworth Military Prison Feb. 10, 1883 (S. O. 30, Feb. 8, D. M.)

In the case of Private Donald O'Neil, Troop E, 7th Cav., the unexpired portion of the sentence is remitted (G. C.-M. J. 34, Feb. 3, D. D.)

So much of the unexpired portion of the sentence in the

case of Private John J. Lusk, Co. E, 9th Inf., as relates to confinement, is remitted (S. O. 18, Feb. 9, D. P.)

The unexpired portion of the sentence in the case of Private Patrick Eiright, Co. D, 10th Inf., is remitted (G. C.-M. O. 18, Feb. 8, D. E.)

In the case of Private Edward Fleming, Co. A, 4th Inf., the unexpired portion of his sentence is remitted (S. O. 32, Feb. 10, D. M.)

The following named military prisoners, entitled to an abatement of five days per month for continuous good conduct, may be discharged from the Fort Leavenworth Military Prison on the dates set opposite their respective names: Henry E. Woods and John Reimer, Feb. 17; Peter E. Murphy, James Duffy, and William Curtis, Feb. 18; William Meadows, Feb. 20; Frederick Piper, Feb. 25; Philip Farrell and Benjamin C. Mosby, Feb. 26; Francis Jennings, Herbert L. Jordan, George D. Vermilya, and John W. Wisner, Feb. 28, 1883 (S. O. 33, Feb. 12, D. M.)

Marksmen's Buttons.—Upon a request of a soldier to be furnished with a set of marksmen's buttons to replace a set lost by him, upon the recommendation of this office, approved by the Secretary of War, marksmen's buttons can be sold to marksmen at twenty cents each upon the approval of the company commander. Should the soldier desire to purchase, application therefor should be made to this office. (Letter Chief of Ordnance, Jan. 23, 1883.)

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Department of the South.—Our Newport Barracks, Ky., correspondent, writes: "We have had a terrible time here with the floods, officers, ladies, men, etc., having had to remove into the upper stories of the quarters and to other places to escape drowning. Rafts have had to be used, and altogether our experience has been not of the most delightful kind. But we have much to be thankful for, for our miseries are nothing compared to those of the surrounding inhabitants in the immediate Districts. General Hunt has done everything to make things as comfortable as possible. Quarters are to be hired in Cincinnati until things can be got to rights again, and our civilian neighbors have been extremely hospitable."

Department of Arizona.—Information was received at Tucson Feb. 10 of two fights with Apaches on the south side of the Papigochie River in the foot hills of the Sierra Madre Mountains, in Chihuahua, between Apaches and citizen soldiers of the town of Temosachi and surrounding district. Last fall Governor Luis Terrazas authorized the people of that section to organize a company of citizen soldiers to fight marauding Apaches. Jan. 29 the company surprised a camp of Apaches. A fight ensued, in which twelve Indian scalps were taken, and thirty-three Indians were made prisoners. A hurried march was begun to reach Temosachi in safety with the prisoners and supplies. The citizens were overtaken by a superior number of Apache warriors, who attacked the company savagely. The citizens fought desperately, and succeeded in holding the prisoners, but lost six of their own men and had a few wounded. The citizens took four scalps, and the Indians recovered ten of the thirty-eight loaded horses. The company arrived at Temosachi 315 miles west, on the right bank of the Papigochie River, with sixteen scalps, twenty-eight old and young prisoners, the war horses, and twenty-eight animals loaded with provisions and arms.

A February "Roster of Troops" is thankfully acknowledged.

Department of the Missouri.—Owing to the careless use of kerosene oil by many in the garrison of Fort Leavenworth, Colonel Otis has issued an order prohibiting the use of kerosene stoves or the use of kerosene oil in kindling fires, or for any purpose whatsoever except for burning in properly constructed lamps in any of the Government buildings, and all persons are warned of the danger of filling lamps after nightfall.

The theme for last Sunday at the Leavenworth prison chapel was "The Success of Christianity a Vindication of Christ's Life and Mission." Mrs. Lieut. D. M. Scott sang "There's a Green Hill Far Away," Gounod, at the morning service.

Cigars went with a rush at the commissary Feb. 10. Lieut. Reynolds was presented with a fine boy.

Department of Columbia.—The Vancouver Independent of Jan. 25 says: "There is to be another theatrical entertainment at the post Friday evening, on which occasion new players will make their first appearance on the stage. The Quartermaster disposed of seventeen condemned horses at public sale on Tuesday, bringing from \$13 to \$41 each. The lot is considered well sold at \$376. Matters are more quiet than usual at military headquarters this week, the interruption to travel and mails by the freeze up being responsible, in a measure, therefore. The post reading rooms, now in charge of Capt. W. H. Boyle, 21st Infantry, continue in successful operation. It is no longer an experiment, two years successful existence having demonstrated its usefulness as a means of entertainment and instruction for the private soldier. The daily average attendance is 75, and the receipts pay a dividend each month over expenses. Ice has been stored in considerable quantities this week for the use of the post and headquarters during the coming summer."

Department of the Platte.—The Cheyenne Leader, of Feb. 8, says: "Paymaster J. W. Wham, with Mr. Gibbous, his clerk—both genial and accomplished gentlemen—have paid us a visit, paying the troops, and then went to Fort Robinson, and returning by the south to Cheyenne. Asst. Surg. Paulding, U. S. A., stationed here, and Mrs. Paulding, have gone to Washington, D. C. Mrs. Paulding expects to remain in the East for some time. We are all sorry to lose her from our circle. The doctor, we are glad to say, will return in a month."

A Roster of troops in this department for February is thankfully acknowledged.

ARMY ORDERS TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

2d Lieut. Charles B. Vogdes, 1st Infantry, is assigned to command of a detachment of specially assigned recruits, ordered to leave David's Island, N. Y. H., Feb. 17, 1883, via Columbus barracks, Ohio, for Fort Grant, Arizona. On completion of this duty Lieut. Vogdes will join his company.

The leave of 2d Lieut. W. S. Scott, 1st Cavalry, is extended three months. (S. O. W. D., Feb. 16.)

Leave of absence for four months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted Assistant Surgeon P. J. A. Cleary, U. S. A. (S. O. W. D., Feb. 16.)

The leave of Lieut. H. L. Haskell, 12th Infantry, is extended three months. (S. O. W. D., Feb. 16.)

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

OUR TROOPS IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

The pestiferous Payns and his "boomers" have succeeded in greatly disturbing the comfort of our troops who have been turned in a most inclement season to enforce the law against the invasion of the Indian Territory. The despatch which follows tells the story of their hardships:

FORT RENO, I. T., February 4, 1883.

A. A. G. Dept. Missouri:

Sir: I have the honor to report that one of the most severe storms ever known in this country has been raging since the evening of the 1st inst. On the morning of the 2d the thermometer stood at 5 deg. below zero; on the 3d at 8 deg. below, and this morning at 11 deg. below, and now at 3 p. m. at 3 deg. above. A gale of wind has been blowing with fine snow, cutting like a knife. Capt. Boyer, with Troops C and G from Fort Sill, arrived just at dusk last evening, having made the march from Fort Sill in two days facing this storm. Having been ordered to make this post in two days, he had no discretion in the matter of delaying. These two troops had 54 men more or less frosted, some very severely frozen. Men and animals suffered terribly. I consider this one of the hardest marches I have ever known. He is accompanied by Capt. Cusack and Lieut. Humphrey. These two troops have 92 officers and men, and of this number at least 50 will not be fit for duty under eight or ten days, and many of them for probably a month. In accordance with instructions from your headquarters I shall hold them here until I find that they are actually needed in Oklahoma. Capt. Carroll, 9th Cavalry, with Lieuts. Olmsted and Stevens, 9th Cavalry, and Dr. Thompson, A. A. Surgeon, and Troops F and I, 9th Cavalry, left here on the 1st, and have been out in this whole storm. The suffering must have been terrible. By a courier from Capt. Carroll last evening he reports that ten men were frost bitten and much suffering experienced. He is in camp in Oklahoma about 30 miles from here, near our old camp, and will remain there until the storm breaks, and try and make it as comfortable as possible for men and animals. He took 30 days' rations and plenty of grain. I started a load of hay for the camp this morning; will send another to-morrow. The telegraph line is down both west and south. I sent repairs out in the direction of the Cantonment yesterday morning; hope to get the line up soon. It is hardly possible that the boomers could have started in this storm. Mr. C. F. Summers, quartermaster agent at Caldwell, can inform you as to whether they have left or not. I am of the opinion that the two troops from this post will have no trouble in removing any number of boomers that may come in. Very respectfully,

F. F. BENNETT,

Captain 9th Cavalry, commanding post.

A telegram of Feb. 11 to Gen. Pope from commanding officer at Fort Reno, I. T., says: "Courier just in from Camp Oklahoma with reports from Camp Carroll, commanding. The colony has partially broken. About 75 wagons are now en route to the Kansas line, escorted by troops, and others are still moving; 12 wagons have gone to Arkansas. Those of the invaders who refused to go peaceably have been arrested and are being brought to Fort Reno. I believe there is no necessity for more troops. Shall keep you informed of further movements. The prisoners being brought here I shall send to Caldwell, Kan."

The following despatch has been forwarded to Washington:

FORT RENO, I. T., February 12.

Capt. Boyer, from Capt. Carroll's command, has just arrived with Payne, Goodrich, and Stafford, of the Oklahoma colony. Nine others arrested at the same time, and including Osborne, secretary of the colony, will be in to-morrow. All of the colony have left for the Kansas line. Capt. Carroll is following to see that they leave the Territory. I have received no reports from Capt. Carroll of the number that were in the district; but Payne says there were 600. DEWEES, Major commanding.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT BRIDGER, WYOMING.

February 5, 1883.

Since Feb. 1, we have had the coldest weather ever known at this post. The self-registering thermometer for the last four consecutive mornings has been frozen, the mercury snugly resting down in the bit, indicating 40 deg. below zero.

Last night Lieut. Kennon, 6th Infantry, post quartermaster at Ft. Thornburgh, arrived with Hon. Frank J. Gardner, U. S. Indian Commissioner, from that post, making a regular old-fashioned "pony express" trip between the two posts, a distance of eighty miles, by backboard and ambulance, in 15-34 hours. Three relays were on the road and four separate teams used.

ARMY CONFIRMATIONS, FEBRUARY 11, 1883.]

Quartermaster's Department.

Capt. James W. Scully, assistant quartermaster, to be quartermaster, with the rank of major, Jan. 23, 1883, vice Baker, deceased.

Medical Department.

Lieut. Colonel Elisha I. Baily, surgeon, to be surgeon with the rank of colonel, January 30, 1883, vice Keeney, deceased.

Major Edward P. Vollum, surgeon, to be surgeon with the rank of lieutenant colonel, January 30, 1883, vice Baily, promoted.

Captain Peter J. A. Cleary, assistant surgeon, to be surgeon with the rank of major, January 30, 1883, vice Vollum promoted.

3d Artillery.

2d Lieut. Charles B. Satterlee, to be 1st lieutenant, January 31, vice Postley, resigned.

9th Cavalry.

1st Lieut. Patrick Cusack, to be captain, Jan. 20, 1883, vice Hooker, deceased.

2d Lieut. Robert T. Emmet, to be 1st lieutenant, Jan. 20, 1883, vice Cusack, promoted.

1st Infantry.

1st Lieut. Chas. A. Booth, 1st U. S. Infantry, to be an assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain, vice Scully, promoted.

8th Infantry.

Capt. Andrew S. Bart, of the 9th Infantry, to be major Jan. 26, 1883, vice Sanders, deceased.

9th Infantry.

1st Lieut. Morris C. Foote, adjutant, to be captain, Jan. 26, 1883, vice Bart, promoted to the 8th Infantry.

GEN. SHERMAN'S RETIREMENT.

THAT most difficult of arts, the art of growing old gracefully, Gen. Sherman appears to understand thoroughly, and if anything could reconcile his friends to the inevitable progress of time which is hastening his final adieu to the Army, it is the cheerfulness with which he himself bows to the inevitable. In his remarks at the Corkhill banquet last week of which we gave some report, the General says:

Though watching with intense interest the course of public events throughout the world, my own personal and professional experience has brought me more closely in contact with the stirring events of our own land—the Florida war, the Mexican war, the civil war, and of that other greater war, which began when the first pilgrim stepped ashore at Plymouth Rock and is not yet ended, namely, the war for the extension of civilization over this continent. Wars are not all evil; they are part of the grand machinery by which this world is governed—thunder storms which purify the political atmosphere, test the manhood of a people, and prove whether they be worthy to take rank with others engaged in the same task by different methods. Looking back over these wars, even at this short distance of time, they already seem to be more episodes in the general history, accomplishing valuable results which could not have been reached in any other way.

Paradoxical as it may sound, wars in our country have always been made by men who profess peace, and peace has been made possible by those who profess war. Our soldiers have been the real peacemakers of our country; and, again, few of the men who caused these wars ever saw at the time the real consequences even to their own generation. Many of the elders now present can recall the battle cry of 1846—"American blood has been shed on American soil; consequently war"—when Gen. Taylor himself had asserted that his Army would be an invader the moment he crossed the Nueces River. It is reported that Gen. Grant has recently said that we had no just cause of war with Mexico; yet who of us now will question the great truth that the fruits of that war have been most bountiful and beneficent to all mankind. It has extended our system of Government from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Sabine to the Rio Grande; converting lands which had remained for centuries in the possession of wild beasts and wilder savages into prosperous States and Territories in the short period of thirty-seven years. We must admit that our bodies are growing old, however young our thoughts, and it should be a source of pride with us to realize that in all the professions and walks of life into which the human family naturally divides itself, the young replace the old insensibly by a law of nature better than we could fashion. The father is replaced by the son on his farm, at the factory, and in the shop. The old merchant and manufacturer finds he must keep his wits about him to anticipate his young rivals. So with the doctor, the lawyer, and in the learned professions, and even more so with us in the Army, where physical as well as mental vigor is demanded. Each war will select or produce its own agents; the veterans of our revolution failed in 1812, those of 1812 were unequal to the Mexican war, and in the civil war new men arose out of absolute obscurity to take the leadership. So will it be in the next war. But military experience and knowledge, physical strength, and patriotic zeal will in the future, as in the past, command success. Have we now in the junior ranks of the Army men capable of organizing and leading grand armies should the country call for them on short notice, is a question every American citizen has a right to ask, and I answer, emphatically, yes. There are this day in the Army young men the equals of Grant, of Sheridan, of Thomas, of Meade, or any of the great commanders at their time of life, so far as physical and mental strength go; but the test of war is fire, and for that we must wait for the once familiar leaden hail.

At the banquet referred to, Mr. Justice Miller proposed the health of Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan in a speech, in the course of which he said:

In all armies which have seen much service, in all wars in which there has been real fighting, there has come to the front some officer or soldier renowned as the man whose name is the synonym of victory. These are the Chevalier Bayards, the Marshal Ney, and the Stonewall Jacksons of military fame. They have not always commanded large armies, but they have rarely lost a battle when they did command. They are men who magnetize the soldiery they lead, and who command without difficulty their best fighting capacity.

Their names in after times constitute the most brilliant element of romance, and of that history which, like Macaulay's, is both history and poetry, over whose pages the young and the old linger with delight.

Such a man we have with us to-night. The man who by his timely presence snatched victory from the jaws of defeat in the valley of the Shenandoah, and who manoeuvred and fought Lee into the surrender at Appomattox of the last army and the last hope of the Confederacy.

It is necessary to add, after what I have said, that the toast I propose is to the health and happiness, the long life and prosperity of Phil. Sheridan, the Lieutenant General of the Army of the United States.

In reply General Sheridan said:

I think if Justice Miller had had the calling of this company together he would have been a little more considerate than my friend, Colonel Corkhill, and he would have done as Colonel Corkhill did to General Sherman, have notified me that my health was to be proposed. Would you not, Judge?

Justice Miller: Yes, and he ought to have done it.

General Sheridan, continuing—and further than that, he would have given me notification. I think that there would have been present newspaper editors here, not correspondents, but editors, to note the remarks that were to be made, and then I would have drawn my paper out of my pocket like this, (indicating. A voice—That ain't speechmaking.) Well, I won't make you a very long one, anyway, but I do want to express to Colonel Corkhill the great pleasure that he has given me in inviting me here this evening to meet with the distinguished gentlemen that are here, and especially upon an occasion to do honor to my friend and commander for so long a time—General Sherman, the General of the Army. I first met General Sherman at Shiloh, or rather a few days after the battle of Shiloh, when he was advancing on Corinth, about twenty years ago. He did not have much to eat at his headquarters except hard bread, but he was full of fire. I have known him, as I have said, for over twenty years, most of which time he has been my superior commander. I can assure you, gentlemen, that the very happiest thought of my whole life will be that not one single act of his and not one circumstance has occurred during that long period which has interfered with our friendship or diminished my respect and pride in him. [Applause.] It may be that I may be called to follow him, and if I am I never can approach, you know, the brilliant administration which he has given to the Army and the satisfaction to all of you, gentlemen, and the country, and my only hope, therefore, will be that, in an honorable course, and in the strict performance

of my duty, I may simply approximate to the satisfaction he has given not only to the Army, but to the country at large. [Applause.]

In his reply to the toast, "Our Wives," Mr. Henry Watterston made a graphic allusion to the wife of the guest of the evening, Mrs. Sherman. He said:

But, "Our Wives,"—we don't have far to look to find them: sometimes, I am told, you Army gentlemen have been known to find them turning unexpectedly up along the ranges of the Rocky Mountains, and making their presence felt even as far as the halls of the Montezumas. Yet how should we get on without them? Rob mankind of his wife, and Time could never become a grandfather. Strange as you may think it, our wives are, in a sense, responsible for our children; and I ask you seriously, how could the world get on if it had no children? It might get on for awhile, I do admit; but I challenge the boldest among you to say how long it could get on without "Our Wives." It would not only give out of children; in a little—a very little—while it would have no mother-in-law, nor sister-in-law, nor brother-in-law, nor any of those acquired relatives whom it has learned to love, and who have contributed so largely to its stock of harmless pleasure.

But, as this is not exactly a tariff discussion, though a duty, I drop statistics; let me ask you what would become of the revenues of man if it were not for "Our Wives?" We should have no milliners but for "Our Wives." But for "Our Wives" those makers of happiness and felicitous, those fabricators of smiles and frills, those gentle beings who bias and scold and do their sacking at both ends of the frill, and sometimes in the middle, should be compelled to shut up shop, retire from business, and return to the good old city of Mantua, whence they came. The world would grow too rich; albeit, on this premise, I do not propose to construct an argument in favor of more wives. One wife is enough, two is too many, and more than two are an abomination everywhere except in Utah and the halls of our national legislature.

I beg you will forgive me. I do but speak in banter. It has been said that a good woman fitly mated grows doubly good; but how often have we seen a bad man mated to a good woman turned into a good man? Why, I myself was not wholly good until I married my wife; and, if the eminent soldier and gentleman in whose honor we are here—and may be among us many and many another anniversary, yet always sixty-three—if he should tell the story of his life, I am sure he would say that its darkest hours were cheered, its brightest illuminated by the fair lady of a noble race, who stepped from the highest social eminence to place her hand in that of an obscure young subaltern of the line. The world had not become acquainted with him, but with the prophetic instinct of a true woman, she discovered, as she has since developed, the mine. So it is with all "Our Wives." Whatever there is good in us they bring it out; wherefore may they be forever honored in the myriad of hearts they come to lighten and to bless.

In concluding a speech in response to the sentiment of "The Volunteer Soldier," Senator Logan said:

Sir, these men marched with him through valleys, over hills and mountains, across rivers and over marshes, and the only question asked in all these campaigns was, "Where is the enemy?" [Applause.] There were no questions of numbers or time. And for Gen. Sherman I will say there was not a soldier who bore the American flag or followed it, not a soldier that carried a musket or drew a sabre, who did not respect him as his commander. [Applause.] There was not one, sir, but would have drawn his sword at any time to have preserved his life. There is not one to-day, no matter what may be said, that would dim in the slightest degree the lustre of that bright name, achieved by ability, by integrity, and by true bravery as an officer. [Applause.] And in conclusion let me say this: While that Army, when it was disbanded, was absorbed in the community like rain drops in the sand, all citizens in the twinkling of an eye, and back to their professions and their business, there is not one of these men, scattered as they are from ocean to ocean, who does not honor the name of the man who led them in triumph through the enemies' land. [Applause.] Wherever he may go, wherever he may be, whatever may be his condition in life, there is not one who would not stretch out a helping hand to that brave commander who led them to glory. Speaking for that Army, if I may be permitted to speak for it, I have to say, may the choicest blessings that God showers upon the head of the man go with him along down through his life. It is the prayer of every soldier who served under him. [Applause.]

The following regrets were received from Mr. Justice Harlan and Gov. Butler:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 8, 1883.

To Col. George B. Corkhill:

DEAR COL. CORKHILL: I regret, more than I can express by mere words, my inability to be with you this evening upon the anniversary of the birthday of my old commander, Gen. Sherman. The circumstances under which he appeared in Kentucky in 1861 to take control of the Union forces there stationed can never be forgotten by me. Then comparatively unknown, he is now recognized as among the greatest of the military commanders who have figured in the world's history.

It would be hazardous to say of any man that but for his efforts the Union would have perished, yet it would be difficult to name the soldier who could have done just what Sherman did toward the preservation of the Union and the restoration of the national authority.

The ambition of any one should be satisfied if it could be recorded of him that he did as much as Sherman has done worthy of being transmitted to posterity.

Give him my love, and express for me the hope that he has before him many years of health and happiness.

Truly yours,

JOHN M. HARLAN.

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, FEB. 6, 1883.

Col. Geo. B. Corkhill, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR COL. CORKHILL: Your invitation to meet Gen. Sherman on the sixty-third anniversary of his birth I had the pleasure of receiving this morning.

It is not a formal regret I make when I say that public duties prevent my being present. Nothing else would.

A sincere friendship has existed for many years between myself and Gen. Sherman, whose sixty-third birthday you and his friends commemorate. Alas! that they are so many, and that we have him not now at the same age as when he earned his triumphs in the war in '63.

Renewing my thanks for your courtesy and kindness, I am very truly your friend,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

A DESPATCH of Feb. 15, from Constantinople, says: "Except the Bordan question, which he still upholds, General Wallace, U. S. Minister, has arranged for the settlement of all the American claims, including the payment of the claim of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company."

ATTACK ON THE SIGNAL SERVICE.

General Hazen, Chief of the Signal Service, has published the following reply to the attack upon the Signal Service and its Chief made by the Hon. Frank E. Beltzhoover, of Pennsylvania, in the House of Representatives, Feb. 8, 1883:

To the Editor of the Herald:

The speech of Mr. Beltzhoover, of the House of Representatives, purporting to refer to the subject of the transfer of the Signal Service, which was printed in the *Congressional Record* of February 8, 1883, but was not spoken, is a tissue of calumny and falsehood. It is made up of three principal parts, written and prepared by a discharged and degraded member of the Signal Corps, whom I confined in the guardhouse at Fort Myer for uttering writing and publishing defamations and falsehoods against my predecessor, General Myer, and myself. These four parts are only strung together by Mr. Beltzhoover. The first of them is mainly a republication of a series of anonymous articles, written by the person before alluded to, and printed during the past season in the *Sunday Gazette*, of this city. They are composed chiefly of falsehoods, which Mr. Beltzhoover, by assuming, has become a party to.

Especially true is this in his charge that the Signal Corps is run now exactly as it was "under Howgate," and that it has not tried to secure Howgate's arrest and trial, and that it seeks to prevent an investigation. All of these charges he knows to be baseless false, as he already had in Congress a report from the War Department, called for by his own resolution, which showed that the contrary was true, and that the Signal Corps had itself caused the arrest of Howgate, and had done all in its power to cause his trial and an investigation. There is nothing in the Signal Service that any man in it is not willing to have investigated.

The second part is composed of a series of private letters, all of which were stolen from myself and other officers of the Bureau by the same person who prepared this paper, and by using them Mr. Beltzhoover has placed himself in the category of persons who appropriate and use stolen goods.

Boards of trade and other mercantile associations of the country are, from the relations of this Bureau to commerce and trade, closely associated with the Signal Service, they having in each a meteorological committee which inspects and reports upon our station work, and in many other ways gives us valuable support and information.

These stolen letters are the exuberant expressions of young men, who, when on the duty of inspecting stations, are required to confer with these associations to learn their wishes regarding our service, and the statement that expense was incurred, except for the usual and necessary purposes of this inspection of stations, is not true.

The third part is a republication of the charges and findings in the Stanley case—a case that perpetrated a great outrage upon justice, truth and fair dealing. It was a great falsehood and wrong to me. Mr. Beltzhoover has seen fit to assume all this outrageous proceeding.

Upon the whole, Mr. Beltzhoover, who has never known me, has become the companion of a falsifying communistic element I found in my office, which I put out of it as soon as I could find out who composed it. They had for years vilified my predecessor, and when I caused them to take part in the parade at Gen. Garfield's inauguration, they began upon me. They have found a willing tool in Mr. Beltzhoover, and this is the sort of work he is rendering them while he is assuming their misdeeds and falsehoods.

These men for the past six months have boasted both of what they would get done in Congress, and the person who would do it for them, and this statement shows the kind of work it is. The last part of this work is personal, upon its face, and all the other portions are equally so covertly.

W. B. HAZEN.

The following correspondence between General Hazen and the Secretary of War has also appeared:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1883.

To the Honorable the Secretary of War:

SIR: There was printed in the *Congressional Record*, on the 8th inst., a speech by the Hon. Mr. Beltzhoover, of Pennsylvania, upon the Signal Service, which contained many statements which, if true, would render this service unworthy of its present position, and its chief and other officers unfit for the places they held. In view of the fact, I would respectfully ask that the President of the Senate be requested by resolution to appoint a committee of its members to thoroughly investigate the matters alleged in that speech, and any other matters that any person may see fit to bring to its notice relating to the Signal Service, and to then make a full report upon the subjects investigated, and also a report as to what legislation respecting it, if any, they may think necessary for the best interests of the country, and that they have authority to sit during the recess, and to send for persons and papers. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. B. HAZEN,

Brigadier and Brevet Major General,

Chief Signal Officer, U. S. A.

The Secretary of War answered:

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Feb. 15, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., in which you refer to statements made by Mr. Beltzhoover, of Pennsylvania, in a speech printed in the *Congressional Record*, and ask that the President of the Senate be requested by resolution to appoint a committee of its members to thoroughly investigate the matters alleged in that speech and any other matters that any person may see fit to bring to its notice relating to the Signal Office. I am unable to consider your request favorably. I am not advised of a precedent for an application by the Chief of a Department Bureau, either directly or through the head of a Department, to one of the Houses of Congress for the appointment of a committee to investigate charges of official misconduct made in debate by a member. Your request is, however, subject to a still more serious objection, in that you wish the Senate to appoint a committee to investigate charges made in debate by a member of the House of Representatives. The mere consideration by the Senate of your application would involve a violation of a general rule of parliamentary practice, which can be found in section 2 of Jefferson's Manual. In speaking of the separate branches of the legislature, it is there said: "They are, therefore, not to take notice of any bills or other matters depending, or of votes that have been given, or of speeches that have been held by the members of either of the other branches of the legislature until the same have been communicated to them in the usual parliamentary manner." It is believed that any one of the administrative departments of the Government is able to investigate thoroughly charges of misconduct brought against its officers. But, however that may be, when the officer whose conduct is questioned is an officer of the Army, it would not seem necessary to resort to tribunal other than those provided in the Articles of War. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ROBERT LINCOLN, Secretary of War.

MR. BELTZHOOVER'S SPEECH.

In the speech referred to by Gen. Hazen, Mr. Beltzhoover made an argument for the transfer of the Weather Bureau to some civil department and its separation from the Signal Service, which, he said, "is so plainly and appropriately a part of the Army, and, therefore, authorized under the power to raise and maintain an army that it would be useless to argue it." "There is no natural relationship between the two," he declared, "and no reason why they should be combined." The military organization of the bureau, as applied to scientific investigation, was the special object of Mr. Beltzhoover's satire. He said: "What kind of observations do you suppose come from Alaska and Pike's Peak and Mount Washington, made usually

under the present system, by men who are banished to those inclement regions for petty offences or because they do not bow and truckle at the beck and nod of the petty autocrat who struts in all his military glory at the head of the Signal Bureau? What kind of scientific work can you expect anywhere from men who are willing to bear the insolence of such military domination? * * * Fort Myer is a very costly toy. It is a rendezvous for some forty men and half dozen officers. It is maintained ostensibly as a 'school of instruction,' but in reality it is a place for the keeping of private horses, cows, pigs, chickens, conservatories, etc., by those who should be ashamed to so pettily defraud the Government. This fact is a strictly military feature of the Signal Service, and its maintenance costs, salaries of officers, stablemen, gardeners, milkmaids, cooks, laborers, etc., included, not less than \$50,000 per annum. A tremendous price to pay for running this summer resort, and nothing is said either about the enormous value of this property and the yearly interest thereon, which the Government might save by renting the property."

In regard to Howgate, Mr. Beltzhoover says: "But why is Howgate not prosecuted? Ay, there's the rub! With the bureau all smothered in fraud, with the newspapers of the capital teeming with flagrant charges, with the reputation of the whole establishment at stake, why no sign of bringing the great culprit to trial? Nay, much more than that. Why does the whole headquarters of this institution tremble in its boots when it is proposed to investigate Howgate? For no other offence than that I tried to probe this Howgate sore, the Chief of the Signal Bureau sent one of his miserable underlings as a spy to my room to carry thence a silly tale, which he publishes at the expense of the Government, and thrusts upon the attention of Congress and the country. Fear is always mean. Why does this hero of Shiloh fly into a frenzy because I try to bring Howgate to justice? Why does this petty-shoulder-strapped legatee of Howgate tremble like a felon and grow green with rage when the notorious name of his fugitive predecessor is mentioned? I never attacked Hazen, and yet he violates the laws of war of which he seems to know as little as he does of war itself, and drags my name into his petty, truckling, begging circulars to Congress. I neither sought nor want a quarrel with this military martinet who is universally despised and loathed by every respectable soldier in the country; this general without a battle; this commander without a history; this soldier who compromised the charge of base and ignoble cowardice and struts upon the stage and wears the muniments of war shorn of all that makes it honorable or justifies a soldier's life. 'God made him, and therefore let him pass for a man.'"

The further charge of the member from Pennsylvania, which is referred to by Gen. Hazen, is contained in the conclusion of his speech, which is as follows:

But the Signal Bureau has not only forfeited the confidence of the people and of Congress and justifies its transfer to another department and the placing it under a new head and honest administration, but it corruptly spends thousands of dollars annually appropriated for its legitimate duties in blowing its own horn and lauding the pre-eminent greatness of its petty chief. In the fall of 1881 the Chief Signal Officer called upon the Secretary of War for a detail of four Regular Army officers to make trips around the country and to the principal cities "for the benefit of commerce and agriculture." When four were refused, he asked earnestly for one to visit the principal cities "to look after certain commercial interests." What did Hazen want these officers for and what did those who went out in the interest of commerce and agriculture? They were wanted and Hazen sent them out to bore and importune boards of trade and chambers of commerce and prominent men and to work up public sentiment in this way and through the newspapers in the interest of corrupt legislation which he then had pending before Congress. There never was a baser and more contemptible and criminal false pretence practiced on the country or attempted to be practiced and palmed off on Congress than this. Under the guise and pretext that he wanted to look after the interests of commerce and agriculture he asks the Secretary of War for a detail of U. S. Army officers, whom he intended to use as manipulators and electioneers and political managers, sapes and log-rollers to impose on Congress the belief that the country was crying out for more signal service. Read Hazen's own confidential letters. Read the marvellous letters of his "commercial" agents, Powell and Allen and Swift, and compare them with the resolutions of chambers of commerce, etc., of which they severally give the history.

I will print all the letters in full in the appendix, but it may be interesting to give a very brief outline of their contents and drift.

It must be remembered that the majors and captains' bill was before Congress and the chief had set his heart on passing it. Powell was out and working like a beaver in all the larger towns of the country. The time for action had arrived with the meeting of Congress and the work had to be hurried up. Therefore it was thought best to reinforce Story, who was "to look after certain commercial interests" in the principal cities, and the great chief writes:

(Confidential.)

CLAPP: Get word to Powell to work up our friends in the four large cities of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, without regard to Story's expected visit. W. B. HAZEN.

And Powell did "work 'em" up in good style.

From Pittsburgh he writes, November 11, 1881, that he was doing his level best with the Chamber of Commerce, and particularly requires that "all action should appear spontaneous on their part."

From Chicago, November 22, 1881, he writes:

Papers will at time of convening of Congress publish editorials. I have left word for the editorials to be sent to you, and thought after we got them all in you could have copies printed and sent to each member of Congress.

He then gives the whole method of his operations, and says he requests members of Board of Trade, etc., "not only to vote with the committee of board, but to make individual effort with their members of Congress to secure desired result."

From Indianapolis, November 24, 1881, Allen writes:

The Signal Corps has done no end of begging, and when we only want resolutions and no dinners they respond heartily.

This is rather humble work for a 1st lieutenant of the 3d Cavalry, United States Army.

At Toledo, December 5, 1881, Powell says:

I have left nothing undone to put our case in the best light. It is somewhat of a job to overhaul everyone, and in some cases argue for an hour or more as to the wisdom of keeping the service under military control.

Here Powell had hard work, but succeeded after long and arduous labor in capturing an editor. He concluded, however, that "everything is swimming."

Powell's letter from Erie, December 11, 1881, is a sad one, but worth reading. "Some of the zeal was taken out of him."

At Buffalo, December 13, 1881, he was "working day and night" and moving on Vermont in the grand Signal Service spontaneous crusade. He succeeded here, however, in "changing the tune of a hard-headed editor, who intended pushing them a little in an unfavorable way."

Three days later he writes from Buffalo, December 14, 1881, that the resolutions which are being passed at various places have "too much shop" in them. This should be stopped, he thinks. He says:

My aim has been to make these resolutions appear as spontaneous action of business men.

On December 15, 1881, Allen struck Montgomery, Alabama, the worst place he had found that year. He calls for the Military Committees of the House and Senate.

At Rochester, December 16, 1881, Powell saw editor of *Express*, "who had intended to go for the service," but "after a long conversation bound him to our interests." The "other papers he had no trouble with." He says:

We have certainly reached the delegations from Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York.

Pretty good work.

From Albany, December 24, 1881, Powell writes that he is "glad Story intends visiting these cities." Hazen had named them to Story. He thinks he could have saved Story his Boston trip. He says:

I think we will certainly deluge the delegates from this State (New York) with resolutions.

He believes there are thirty-eight members from New York, but he was a little at fault in that; but then he is only a 2d lieutenant.

At Portland, January 2, 1882, he ran foul of "a chairman of a meteorological committee." This was bad. The Signal Bureau does not prosper among meteorological people, and Powell here "swallowed a bitter pill."

At Salem, Mass., June 11, 1882, Powell found out that the Portland meteorological man was a "consummate ass," and referred him to Gen. Hazen.

At Boston, January 16, 1882, Powell saw "Tom, Dick and Harry," and also that there was a "little feeling here against offering anything before the board relative to the bureau." He says:

They got themselves into a box with Howgate and are a little timid.

He inclosed Hazen "some real good editorials which, with my (his) usual good luck, I was able to 'wheedle' out of the papers." This is a little hard on the Boston editors, if we understand this word "wheedle." He would like to have stayed at Boston a few days, but he knew they were "all desirous for him to reach New York." He found his "ammunition" short here also, and reports that he is pretty good at 'shouting,' but wants something to back it. "A little call for more 'ammunition.'"

At Newport, Jan. 20, 1882, he suggested the man who could do the resolution business at Galveston, Texas. Here, he says, he could only "reach two Senators and two Representatives, but every little helps." Here he met, also, Hon. Mr. Mitchell, who said he "controlled Anthony and Aldrich, and the two Representatives."

From New Haven, Jan. 30, 1882, Powell writes that "he ought to be in New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore." He also says he wrote Glassford, and warns the Department a little against "Swift." Glassford, it seems, was not wholly loyal, and Powell began to suspect Swift.

From New York, Feb. 2, 1882, Powell predicts "that there will be some hard fighting, and thinks he could help if he was in Washington, especially with the men." He says:

I have laid my wires so well that if resolutions are not passed at every station where I have asked them I know the men had something to do with it.

Powell does not seem to have as much confidence in the men as Hazen's last circular would seem to justify.

Powell's next letter is from the St. Nicholas Hotel, New York, Feb. 3, 1882, and must be read in full to be appreciated. Among other things, he says:

The president of the Board of Underwriters is an old fossil, to whom I had to give about two hours of valuable time of explanation. He was afraid it was something would do him an injury. He turned me over to the vice president.

The vice president attended promptly to the whole matter of resolutions, and promised to throw into the bargain the distinguished member of Congress from his district on the Military Committee.

Here he got a letter from Story telling him to vary the resolutions, and describes what reams of paper he used up in attempting to get a change of phraseology and prevent too much "shop" in these spontaneous effusions from Chambers of Commerce, etc.

On Feb. 3, 1882, the great chief himself writes to

Capt. Clapp and directs him to "write Powell that the third section is necessary, but the men on the corps will come in first when they deserve it, as he certainly will. Also that after visiting Philadelphia to keep us informed, and when time for action comes, I will have him come here, finishing his tour afterward." The faithful Powell had become dissatisfied with the bill he was working so hard to help, and the chief wanted to encourage him.

On Feb. 4, 1882, Powell writes from New York again that "the Board of Underwriters had prepared a most magnificent resolution [letter] . . . addressed to McCook." This whole letter of Powell should be read and compared with the letter and resolutions of the Board of Underwriters, which bear the same date.

The crowning letter of the lot is from Lieut. Swift, whose loyalty had been doubted. He writes to Hazen from Fort Myer, Feb. 7, 1882. Swift is only a 2d lieutenant, but he says:

I can pull a pretty heavy oar in both the Senate and the House.

He names a large number of prominent Senators and Representatives whom he holds in hand, and several Congressional delegations. He not only has the Rhode Island Senators, but says, "I can pull their solid constituents."

Powell's last letter is from Philadelphia, and is addressed to Story, Feb. 8, 1882, wherein he seems to have fixed up the New York *Herald* and got a solid hold on Kelley and Randall, etc. This is a good letter from Hazen's faithful mercantile agent. He concludes by admonishing Story as follows:

I tell you, Story, a bottle of wine and a dinner go a long way sometimes.

These very brief extracts from the letters, which I give in full in the appendix, afford but a bird's-eye view of the influences which Hazen and his aids brought to bear all over the United States for the majors and captains' bill.

Here are Regular Army officers, while they are drawing large salaries from the Government for services to the public, who prostitute their places to the infamous work of getting up bogus resolutions to impose upon Congress and induce it to vote more money to build up a grand soft nest for just such scalawags to creep into. They cannot dishonor themselves, but they bring reproach upon the most distinguished service in the world. Howgate stole the people's money like any ordinary forger and thief; but here is a refinement of rascality by which the "commercial" agents of the Signal Bureau steal the appropriations in working upon Congress for still larger sums to be again stolen, with a zeal and offensiveness hardly equalled by Mr. Randolph's "rotten mackerel by moonlight, which shines and stinks and stinks and shines."

But this is not all. These bogus resolutions are printed at the Government's expense, and mailed in Government envelopes at the cost of the Government. Buncombe articles are published in newspapers indorsing the Signal Bureau, and paid for as advertisements out of the Signal Service fund. One of these laudatory frauds was published in a paper in France called *Nature*, at a cost of 2,000 francs, which was paid out of the storm fund. This article from *Nature*, and similar ones from other papers, are republished in pamphlet form by thousands, under the direction of Hazen, to prove to an admiring country what a great weather prophet and rival of Vennor we have? Hazen and Vennor—*par nobis fratrum*. Besides these things, a paid editor is employed to arrange and varnish up these stale puffs of the Signal Bureau. What is Serg. Finley doing at John Hopkins University in Baltimore? What is Serg. Spriggs doing at Morgantown College, and Serg. West at the University of Champaign, Illinois? What law authorizes Hazen in his discreditable to send young men to college? Perhaps this is what he wants \$4,000 for incidentals for. What does he want with the electric clock, which cost \$1,000, in the cellar of his unique establishment?

But it would be a fruitless task to specify all the petty frauds, and misappropriations of this remarkable bureau. The Secretary of War, General Sherman, and every military man of any distinction scouts the idea of the Weather Bureau being any part of the Signal Service. They all say it is eminently scientific and wholly unmilitary. They protest in the strongest possible language that it should be disconnected and divorced from the Army. They are tired of the company, and the longer the bond of union is continued, the more irksome it will become.

Army signalling is learned in a few weeks, and there are 5,000 men in the Army to-day who are better signalmen than those in the Signal Corps. The teaching of signalling is not the purpose, and certainly not the practice of the bureau which passes under that name. The Signal Service proper was a necessary and legitimate outgrowth of the late war.

In 1866, by the act of 28th July of that year putting the Army on a peace footing, it was enacted that the Signal Service should have a chief with the rank of colonel of cavalry, six officers of engineers, and not to exceed one hundred privates. The appropriations for the service of that year did not exceed \$100,000. In the sixteen years that have intervened between that time and the present current year, it has grown by the most devious and sneaking "rider" legislation until it cost in 1882 \$1,141,639, and demands for 1883 the sum of \$1,555,000. Where is the thing going to end? From very small beginnings it has grown until, with its immense appropriations, it has been enabled to establish advertising bureaus, control boards of trade, invade Congress, and expect almost anything it may ask.

If we are to have a splendid and expensive Weather Bureau which will be the pride of the country and the glory of science, let us establish one on an intelligent and statesmanlike basis, so that we will have reason to expect results beneficial to the commerce and agriculture of the nation as well as to the knowledge of the world. Not one step has been made forward in the last ten years of the existence of our shoulder-strapped toy.

What work has Hazen or any of the men under him published during his administration except petitions, resolutions, etc.? Hazen and Abbe and Upton and Waldo *et al* *unne genue*, in the receipt of enormous salaries, have not given to the world one single new development in the science of their department. Old Commodore Maury, almost unaided, did more for meteorological science in a few years and at absolutely inconsiderable expense, than our shoddy military Weather Bureau has done in many years, or is likely to do forever.

THE "DISCHARGED AND DEGRADED EMPLOYEE."

Mr. Theodore V. Van Heusen, Jr., formerly of the Signal Service Bureau, whom Gen. Hazen calls a discharged and degraded employee, has written for publication a long letter in reply to that officer's statements. He says that he was led to attempt to expose the abuses of the Signal Service by his desire to do his duty, by his promise to his oppressed comrades, and by a desire to vindicate his own course in refusing to aid in carrying out the scheme to force the "Majors and Captains bill" through Congress. He expected abuse, and he has not been disappointed. He accuses Gen. Hazen of falsehood in saying that he was the author of the published articles criticizing the bureau, and challenges him to produce his proofs. He says that the letters published by Mr. Belthoover were the common property of several persons, and that their contents were known to half a dozen men, who had to act upon the requirements and suggestions contained in them. He refused to take part in the work, he asserts, although offered the position of second lieutenant. He continues: "It was then determined to get me away from Washington. By the grossest falsehood, verbal and written, Secretary Lincoln was induced to approve my transfer to New Orleans and I refuse me the discharge I earnestly pleaded for. I was dragged from a sick bed and hurried away to New Orleans, where I was taken with a fever, from the effects of which I am now, as I believe, going to my grave." He declares that for years he occupied positions in the service of much responsibility, at Indianapolis, Vicksburg, Erie, Detroit and New Orleans, and won the praise of those above him; that he was called to this city to fill the position which was then the most responsible one in the service open to an enlisted man, and that here he was well treated until he refused to take part in the schemes above mentioned, and then he was hounded and persecuted. He declares that the schemes were not sooner exposed because retiring employees dreaded the assaults which would be made upon them. Gen. Hazen has, he says, failed to show where in any act his conduct has been other than that of an honorable and conscientious man. The state of his health has prevented him from courting a quarrel with the general, but he must defend himself against the assaults upon his character. He demands that Gen. Hazen shall show wherein he has made any false statement, and asserts that the general's abuse of a humble clerk indicates that he has no real defence. He declares that he leaves Gen. Hazen to his thoughts, recalling to him "that morning in March, 1881, when I pleaded with him in tones that would have touched a statue, for my aged father's sake, for the sake of a suffering, invalid wife, for the sake of all that an honorable man holds dear in life, not to degrade me by an unjust arrest and incarceration. Never can I forget how brutally and basely, on the merest suspicion, he tore me from my home and family and hurried me like a felon to the guard-house, only to abjectly apologize for the inexcusable outrage some eleven months later."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

NEWPORT (R. I.) JOTTINGS.

NEWPORT, Feb. 16, 1883.

Dr. Knight, U. S. N., on duty on board of the *Minnesota*, in New York, is visiting his family in this city.

Ensign R. K. Wright, U. S. N., is in town. He is in receipt of numerous congratulations upon his promotion.

Commander C. K. Clark, U. S. N., in command of the *New Hampshire*, has been confined to his home for several days on account of illness.

Rear Admiral A. L. Cass, U. S. N., who is spending the winter in New York, has rented his summer residence at this place to Mr. G. D. Rosenbarten, of Philadelphia.

At a summary court martial on board of the *New Hampshire*, Lieut. Richard C. Darby presiding, Augustus Felles, a Swede, employed as a helper, was ordered to be drummed out of the service for theft on board ship.

A detachment of 18 boys were taken to Boston from the *New Hampshire* by Ensign Toppan for duty on board of the *Powhatan*. These boys were originally sent here from the *Saratoga* at New York to await the return home from Lisbon of the *Nipsic*.

The launch sunk alongside of the *New Hampshire* by the *Tallapoosa* a few weeks ago, will be raised. It was minus engine or boiler, and was not a valuable craft.

It is understood that the *Nipsic* will bring the gun cotton, purchased in England for Torpedo station, to this country.

Lieut. T. C. McLean, U. S. N., has returned to his duties at the Torpedo station.

A cottage is to be built on Conanicut Island for Lieut. Richard C. Darby, U. S. N.

The death of Commander Francis Morris has cast a gloom over the place. The deceased, who was married to a Newport lady, Miss Bellows, about eighty years ago, has repeatedly visited Newport, where he leaves many warm friends. The funeral took place on Wednesday, at Trinity Church, Rev. G. J. Magill officiating. The impressive burial service of the Episcopal Church was used. The remains were placed in a casket covered with black broadcloth, and it was lovingly and tenderly wrapped with the American flag. In accordance with the wish of the family there were no flowers. The grave bore the following inscription: Francis Morris, Commander United States Navy, born July 13, 1844, died February 12, 1883. The pall bearers were as follows: Lieut. Comdr. Theo. F. Jewell, Lieut. T. D. McLean, and Lieut. J. L. Hunsicker, representing the Torpedo station, and Paymaster J. D. Wise, and Lieut. W. McCarty Little, representing the *New Hampshire*. Among those present were Commo. and Mrs. S. B. Lane, Capt. and Mrs. T. O. Bolfridge, Major Tarockmorton, Capt. Alfred D. Taylor, and officers from Fort Adams, Gen. R. B. Potter, of New York; Captain C. C. Churchill, and wife, Mrs. Clark, wife of Comdr. Clark, of the *New Hampshire*, and many others. A detachment of marines from the *New Hampshire*, under Lieut. Sashbury, formed the guard of honor. The funeral cortege was headed by the "training" band. The body was taken to New York the same evening, and was interred at Morrisania, New York, the following day.

A commission has been appointed in Philadelphia, Pa., to investigate Congress against the removal of the League Island Navy-yard.

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

Iron-clads are indicated by a star (*).

North Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Cooper.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Allen V. Reed. Arrived at Key West on the 11th inst. from Cabana. All well.

KHARSARGE, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Win. R. Bridgman. At La Guayra, Venezuela, Jan. 26, to sail that day for Santa Anna, Curacao. Nothing of interest at La Guayra. Health of ship's company good. She left Trinidad Jan. 19. A visit to Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, had been abandoned on account of the not very healthy condition of that port.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Philip H. Cooper. Left Norfolk, yard on the 14th for Port Norfolk, to take in powder. Will go on a cruise to the West Indies.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 22 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Robert F. Bradford. Rear Admiral Cooper reports the *Tennessee* at St. Thomas, Jan. 22, last from Basseterre, St. Christopher's. At the latter place the customary visits were exchanged with the Governor and other officials, and the reception of the vessel was especially cordial. There is quite a trade between St. Christopher's and the United States—nearly all the flour and food consumed on the island coming from American ports. The *Tennessee* would remain at St. Thomas until arrival of mails, and then proceed to Santa Cruz. Health of all on board excellent.

The Dramatic Company and Band of the ship gave an entertainment in the Apollo theatre, St. Thomas, W. I., Jan. 30.

The proceeds of the entertainment were placed at the disposal of the Ladies' Benevolent Association of that island.

Commenting on the entertainment, the *St. Thomas Tidende*, of Jan. 31, 1883, says: We have never seen the house better filled, nor a performance more enthusiastically applauded; the success being attributable to a happy concurrence of circumstances—the charitable and popular object to which the funds so raised were to be applied, the appetite of our public for amusement, whetted by a long enforced abstinence; and more particularly the fact of the performers being amateurs, jack-tars from the flagship *Tennessee*, by the kind permission of Captain Bradford, to whom we are under obligation for this also and other favors.

The band, well balanced as to instruments, and perfectly drilled, rendered the overtures in excellent style, reflecting the highest credit upon the leader. The taste of the latter, and his absolute command of his following, were admirably discovered in the accompaniments to the songs; the necessary support being given to the vocalist, without drowning or obscuring the efforts of the singer. The musical performance was followed by the side-splitting farce, "Jake on Hand, or the Trials of a Tobaccoist." With such a company as the "Ideal Combination" on board," says the *Tidende*, "we can easily understand that 'a life on the ocean wave' can be made quite tolerable." The band gave a promenade concert at the Apollo theatre on Feb. 2.

VANDALIA, 2d rate, 8 guns, Capt. Rush R. Wallace. Expects to reach Aspinwall on the 1st of March, and New Orleans March 15. Arrived at Cape Haytien, Hayti, Jan. 31. Captain Wallace sends interesting reports of his visits to Samana and Porto Plata.

The vessel arrived at Samana Bay Jan. 9. Salutes were exchanged with the authorities. Captain Wallace, with the several officers, called officially on the Governor, and was cordially received. His Excellency returned the visit, accompanied by the local judge and captain of the port, and was saluted with 17 guns.

The Governor gave permission for the crew of the *Vandalia* to be landed and exercised at target practice on shore, as well as to land a howitzer and exercise at target practice with great guns, which privileges were availed of by Mr. Leonard C. Bacon, U. S. commercial agent, visited the *Vandalia* and was saluted. The moment a vessel of merchandise arrives at Samana the price of produce is run up. Water, except for drinking purposes, can be procured without difficulty near the ship. The bay is a fine one, and could be made an excellent coaling station. Never too rough to interfere with discharging coal from schooners. The Clyde line have coal there. Mail facilities poor. Monthly steamers from New York, and a schooner monthly from St. Thomas.

All other times the mails are irregular. The French Transatlantic S. C. Co., also a German line, will soon commence touching at Samana monthly. Capt. Wallace and several of the officers visited, by invitation, the plantation of the Governor, two miles out of town. Attention is given to the cultivation of cocoa, which pays better than anything else, with less trouble, and can easily be brought to market. The great drawback to the cultivation of the island is the entire absence of roads—there being only pathways for pack horses, which during the rainy season are almost impassable for ponies even without a load.

A narrow gauge railroad is being built from the head of the Gulf, and is intended to extend some 80 miles into the interior, to Santa Iago. The imports amount annually to \$100,000, on which a duty of 40 per cent. is levied. During the stay of the *Vandalia* the Trades were fresh, accompanied by rain showers and wind squalls. The nights, after 10 p. m., delightfully cool, requiring some covering at night.

Captain Wallace explains as a reason for his report as to trade, that the commercial agent informed him he had made no annual report, and it was not known that his predecessor did. Health of officers and crew excellent.

The *Vandalia* left Samana on the 24th of January, and arrived off Porto Plata next morning. Sent an officer on shore who communicated with the consul and called on the Governor. Place quiet and no political disturbances apprehended. There was a heavy swell setting in on the bar, and as the anchorage is much exposed, did not anchor. Stood over to Turks Island and anchored the next day. The ship was piloted in by the navigators, but as the anchorage is very bad and very much contracted, the stern of the ship being off soundings, when the anchor is let go, the safety of the ship required the services of a pilot to anchor her, for which purpose solely one was employed. Captain Wallace called on the commissioner and consul, who returned the visit and received the proper salutes. The English flag was first saluted, and returned gun for gun. Commissioner and residents exceedingly kind and courteous. Export and import trade almost exclusively with the United States. Sailed Jan. 30 and arrived at Cape Haytien next day. Political affairs quiet. Financial difficulties, amounting almost to a crisis, expected soon, and they are generally accompanied by political troubles. The Chambers usually convene in April, but the President has ordered a meeting Feb. 12. Cause of trouble exceeding low price of coffee, \$4 per cwt.—the usual price being 12 cents a pound. The crop is about 60,000,000 lbs., paying planters at 12 cents, \$7,200,000, and the Government (tax on exports 3 cents per pound), \$1,800,000. At the low price only about 40,000,000 lbs. are picked, reducing the income to planters to \$1,600,000, and to government \$1,200,000.

On Feb. 1, saluted the Haytian flag with 21 guns—returned gun for gun. Saluted American Consul with 7 guns. Called on the Governor and was received by him with a guard of 40 or 50 men, and also called on consul. The Governor and Staff visited the ship on the 3d, and they seemed well pleased. During stay of *Vandalia* some 12 or 15 vessels were lying in port loading with log-wood. Expected to sail on the 4th for Gonaves. German line of steamers just commenced running, and connects with main line at St. Thomas. The *Vandalia* has had no mails from home. No fortifications at Turks Island. All on board ship well.

YANTIO, 3d rate, 4 guns, Commander Frank Wildes. Expects to reach New Orleans March 15. Arrived at Belize, British Honduras, Feb. 2. Left Aspinwall Jan. 15, and arrived at Shepherd Bay, Cheriqui, the 17th.

Light variable winds and strong easterly current. Sent boats in all directions to find inhabitants. Learned from a small trading craft that there were only five or six negro families on the main land, who traded in part with Boondel Toro. Shepherd Island has not been inhabited for many years. On the 18th proceeded to Boca del Toro. This region has been so well described by Capt. Meade and Commander Picking that it is unnecessary to speak further of it. On the 19th sailed for Great Corn Island—arrived 20th, and anchored on S. W. Bay. Obadiah Quint, (colored), Chief Magistrate of the island, called on board, and was very courteous in his offers of service. His visit was returned. The island occupies a commanding position on the Mosquito Coast, so from it all parts from Cape Gracias to Colon can be easily reached. It is the headquarters of the trading house of W. Jex and Co., of New York. Population 500. Climate mild and agreeable at this season. Large quantities of cocoa nut raised for export, and banana cultivation is being carried on latterly. Big Bay is a smooth anchorage in ordinary weather, and there is a landing place and small wharf, but in case of a norther the reef is decidedly too low. On the 20th sailed for Pearl Lagoon, and went in next morning in a whale boat. Was received by J. H. Outhbert, Attorney General of the Mosquito Reservation, and other officials. Investigated the reported kidnapping of natives. Left under a salute of 8 guns. On the 24th got underway from outside, and arrived at Belize on the 30th. The authorities had not yet made the customary visits. Expects to call on the 5th for Progress—thence to Vera Cruz and Galveston. Health of ship's company good. A despatch reports her arrival at Vera Cruz Feb. 13.

South Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Peirce Crosby.

[Ordered to the Asiatic Station.]

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. A. W. Weaver. Arrived at Montevideo, Feb. 2, from Patagonia.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns (f. s. a. s. a.), Comdr. Oliver A. Batcheller. Temporarily used as flagship. At Montevideo, Nov. 1.

European Station—Rear-Admiral J. W. A. Nicholson.

[Ordered to be relieved by Commo. Chas. H. Baldwin.]

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. Bancroft Gherardi.

NIPSIC, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry B. Seely. Commander Seely reports, Lisbon, Jan. 24, arrival of Chief Engineer Smith on the 21st, with cross-head for engine, and that *Nipsic* would leave the 25th for New York, hoping to arrive about March 1. All well on board.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Wm. Whitehead. Arrived at Genoa from Villefranche Dec 27. Her bonds were being calked, but work was much delayed owing to bad weather. Both the *Quinnebaug* and *Lancaster* will coal at Villefranche and be prepared for service.

Pacific Station—Rear-Admiral A. K. Hughes.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Edgar C. Merriman. At Sitka, Jan. 25. Quiet and good order prevail throughout the Territory. On Jan. 9, Commander Merriman received a petition signed by 109 citizens of Janaree (?), asking him to send a force there, as they feared an outbreak in consequence of a white man putting an Indian in a drunken brawl. The Chief of the Aukis, the tribe affected, came over at the same time, and gave assurance that there would be no trouble. During past month deputations from different tribes have called on Comdr. Merriman, and all say they will never again take the law into their own hands. The burning of Aregon seems to have a good effect. The Adams is in fair order, except that her decks leak, and they are too much worn to be recalced. The main steam pipe having broken, it had been sent to Portland, in charge of Cadet Engineer W. W. White, in order to have it returned by the next steamer. To have sent it to Mare Island would have delayed it one steamer—disabling the vessel for two months.

ALASKA, 2d rate, 12 guns,

Put out of commission at Mare Island on the 13th inst.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Alex. H. McCormick, At Callao, Dec. 14, waiting orders of Navy Department.

HARTFORD, 3d rate, 16 guns, Capt. C. C. Carpenter. At Callao, Jan. 17th.

Despatches by mail report her progress through the Straits. She arrived at Valparaiso Dec. 26—13 days from Sandy Point.

INOCHOIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. James H. Sands. At Callao, Jan. 11.

LACKAWANNA, 3d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Henry Wilson. Sailed from Callao for Honolulu, Dec. 14. Has been ordered to Callao, Peru, on the completion of the coronation ceremonies at Honolulu.

ONWARD, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut.-Commander Thomas M. Gardner. Store ship. At Callao, Peru.

PENSACOLA, 2d rate, 22 guns (f. s. p. a.), Capt. Joseph Pyffe. Cable despatch reports her arrival at Callao.

WAHUSSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Frederick Pearson. Sailed from Mare Island, Jan. 20, for Honolulu.

Asiatic Station—Rear-Admiral J. M. B. Child.

[To be relieved by Rear Admiral Pierce Crosby.]

ASHMELOT, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Horace E. Mullan. At Shanghai Jan. 4.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. A. S. Barker. Arrived at St. Vincent, Cape de Verde Islands, Feb. 2.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. George Dewey. Left Gibraltar, Spain, on the 23d of January for Malta. She was detained at Gibraltar since January 17 on account of a strong "Levanter." Commander Dewey's health is still improving.

MONOGACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Chas. S. Cotton. At Nagasaki Dec. 30.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut.-Commander Geo. D. B. Glidden. Left Kobe Oct. 31, arrived at Nagasaki Nov. 3; left Nagasaki on the 8th and arrived at Chefoo, China, Nov. 15. Anchored at Tokio on the 17th, and on the 18th arrived at Tientsin, where she is now in winter quarters.

RICHMOND, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. a. s.) Capt. Jos. S. Skerrett. Arrived at Hong Kong Jan. 2.

Apprentice Training Squadron—Commodore S. B. Lucie.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Commander Allan D. Brown. A telegram to the chief clerk of the Navy Dept., from C. W. C. Rhodes, Boston, dated the 12th, reports that that vessel arrived at Barbadoes on the 10th inst. All well on board. Lieut. W. H. Rhodes is executive of the Jamestown.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Gunner ship. Wintering at the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Commander Charles E. Clark. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Wm. C. Wise. Training ship. Arrived at Barbadoes Feb. 4.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. Henry C. Taylor. Training ship. At the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

Address during cruise, care of U. S. Consul at Lisbon, up to steamer of March 2, from New York. After that date, and until steamer of March 24 from New York, care of U. S. Consul, Santa Cruz, Island of Tenerife, via London.

On Special Service.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Commander S. Dana Greene. At Washington. Ready for service.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Albert Kautz. At Erie, Penn. Laid up for the winter.

POWHATAN, 3d rate, 14 guns, Captain A. W. Johnson.

The Boston *Advertiser*, of Feb. 15, says: The *Powhatan* will sail in a few days for the West Indies. It is the intention of the Secretary of the Navy to have her touch at several ports seldom if ever visited by U. S. Naval vessels. She will go to Puerto Plata, San Domingo, first, and is due there March 1, and will then call at Cape Haytien, Cape Nieuve Mole, Port au Prince, Aux Cayes, Jacmel, San Domingo City, Port Royal, Carthagena, and Aspinwall. She is due at the latter place April 16, where she will remain ten days to transfer a draft of sixty boys from the training ship *New Hampshire* to the U. S. steamer *Richmond*, on the Pacific. The ship is to arrive at Key West May 3, where she will await orders. The *Powhatan* is officered as follows: Captain, A. W. Johnson, commanding; lieutenant-commander, Chas. J. Train, executive officer; lieutenants, J. N. Hemphill (navigator), Bloomfield McIlvaine, J. M. Grimes, Charles C. Cornwell, R. T. Jaspur; surgeon, Thomas C. Walton; passed assistant surgeon, James C. Byrnes; paymaster, Robert P. Lisle; chief engineer, Henry W. Fitch; passed assistant engineers, Absalom Kirby and John A. Tobin; assistant engineer, Gould H. Bull; chaplain, D. H. Tribon; first lieutenant, I. H. Washburn (U. S. M. C.); cadet midshipmen, L. S. Bennett, L. S. Gwyn, H. Fowler, George E. Kent; boatswain, Peter Johnson; gunner, John Russell; carpenter, M. F. Roberts; sailmaker, James W. Wingate.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. John W. Philip. Arrived at Mare Island on the 12th, and went into dock.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Commander Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. Anchored in winter quarters at foot of 23d street, East River, N. Y.

TALLAPOOSA, 4th rate, 2 howitzers. Commander Augustus G. Kellogg. Arrived at Boston, Mass., Navy-yard, February 14. The *Tallapoosa*, while at Newport, R. I., Feb. 9, came in collision with a steam launch which was hoisted on the side of the flagship *New Hampshire*, preparatory to being dropped on board of the *Tallapoosa*. The *Tallapoosa* steamed alongside, but her engines were not stopped in season to prevent her from crashing into the elevated launch, which was carried from its fastenings to the water. In falling the launch carried away a portion of the *Tallapoosa's* gangway and scraped her sides badly. The launch was also damaged. No one was injured.

WYOMING, 3d rate, 7 guns. At Annapolis, Md. Not in commission.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

COLORADO, 1st rate, 30 guns, Capt. David B. Harmony. Receiving ship, New York.

FORTUNE, 4th rate, Pilot George Glass. A. Norfolk.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. Bushrod B. Taylor. Receiving ship. At Norfolk.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Capt. Chas. S. Norton. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

MIANTONOMOH, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Francis J. Higginson. At the Washington Navy-yard.

PAWNEE, 3d rate, sails, Ensign Wm. Braunerseuther. Hospital ship, Port Royal, S. C.

PHLOX, 4th rate, Mate B. G. Perry. At Annapolis.

PILGRIM, 4th rate, Pilot B. F. Chadwick. Service tug at League Island.

SNOWDROP, 4th rate, Pilot F. Reynolds. Service tug at Norfolk yard.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Capt. Wm. E. Fitzhugh. Receiving ship, League Island.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Comdr. F. M. Bunce. Receiving ship, Boston.

WYANDOTTES, 4th rate, 2 guns, Lieut. Wm. H. Webb. Has taken the place of the *Passaic* as the receiving ship at the Navy-yard, Washington.

The iron-clad *Ajax*, Lieut. J. A. Chesley, (temp.); *Catakill*, Lieut. Jos. Marthon; *Lehigh*; *Mahepac*, Lieut. James A. Chesley; *Manhattan*; are laid up at City Point, Va.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

SENOR John Dinkink, of the Marine Guard, Naval Academy, has been promoted 1st Sergeant in place of 1st Sergeant Davidson, who has retired from the service. Sergeant Dinkink is a favorite with his comrades, and is expected to fill his new position with credit to himself and the command.

The Spaniards are building nine men-of-war, and taking steps towards a reorganization of their navy.

T. M. C., writing to the *New York Times*, about reciprocity with Hawaii, says: The political argument for the treaty is yet stronger than the commercial. The future of the islands is unsettled. As a naval station, they are the key to the North Pacific; they are sending toward American occupancy. France and England have occupied naval stations in the South Pacific; which power is to be the first in the northern waters? "With this station," says Admiral Porter, "the Pacific coast is impregnable; without it, defenseless." Gen. Schofield, U. S. A., wrote in 1876: "The Hawaiian Islands constitute the only natural outpost to the defense of the Pacific coast." To the United States, to England, to France, or to China, the possession of these islands must pass in time.

"The Navy of France has been gradually gaining strength," says the *United Service Gazette*, "while that of England has been

standing still, if not deteriorating. We say this advisedly. It requires no naval expert to understand that the *Achilles*, *Agincourt*, *Minotaur*, *Northumberland*, *Warrior*, *Penelope*, *Lord Warde*, *Belleisle*, and a host of other old ironclads are now useless for all the purposes of modern and naval warfare. And yet these are included in the Admiralty estimate of England's naval force. It requires no naval expert to understand that, France having over 135,000 tons of armorclads in the stocks, to be completed in 1885, while England has but 63,000 tons of the same class of ships building, the French navy must in 1885 be stronger, from the more recent date and improved armament of her ships, than will be the English. These are facts for the taxpayers of the country to most seriously consider."

The Swedish Admiralty has asked Parliament for a grant of 838,000 crowns, for the purpose of building ironclad gunboats.

The German Admiralty have ordered the building of a new ironclad by a private yard at Stettin. This vessel, at present known as "E," will be of 5,200 tons displacement, with twin screw engines of 9,500 horse power. She will be built of steel, and carry her guns in a central battery, protected by compound armor, 12 inches thick. Her armament, as at present proposed, will consist of eight of the new 9½-inch Krupp guns, 35 calibre long, which will discharge steel shells weighing 215 kilos, and which are capable of penetrating an iron plate 16 inches thick. Two smaller guns will be mounted, as bow and stern chasers.

The Norfolk *Landmark*, of Feb. 11, says: Commander H. C. White, Lieutenant I. I. Yeates, and Assistant Engineer H. E. Frick, of the *Pinta*, have gone North on leave of absence. Commander P. H. Cooper, of the *Sagadahoc*, is in Washington, to consult the Secretary of State in regard to the cruise of that vessel. It is expected that she is going on some diplomatic service. Boatswain Peter Johnson, of this city, has been ordered to the *Pachatan*. The two seamen, Andrew Stevenson and Luther F. Haysner, who robbed the *Fortune* of a lot of canvas a few days ago are confined aboard the *Franklin* awaiting trial by Court-martial. Naval Constructor Vainey is confined to his residence by illness.

The *Jeannette* Board of Inquiry has completed the preparation of its report, which will be submitted to the Secretary of the Navy Feb. 13 for transmission to Congress. It is not likely that the Board will be discharged from the consideration of this subject until the survivors who are now on their way to this country have been examined, in which event a supplemental report will be made.

The steam yacht of Pope Pius IX. was lately advertised in London for sale at public auction. She was built soon after the Pope's return from Gaeta to Rome, and, as the *London Times* says, was ordered "to be kept in readiness should he find it necessary to again quit the Vatican at short notice." She is about 600 tons, has a speed of 12 knots, and is equipped as a corvette-of-war, with eight large rifled brass guns. When she first arrived at Civita Vecchia she was received by the Pope and duly blessed and anointed, her cost having been \$250,000, and her name being *Inmaculate Conception*. She remained in the harbor of Civita Vecchia for about twenty years in daily preparation for the Pope, always in charge of a full staff of officers and men, and kept in "the highest state of efficiency and preservation."

A. P. FELLES, bugler on the U. S. training ship *New Hampshire*, was found guilty of larceny Feb. 5, 1883, and dishonorably discharged and drummed out of the service.

The commission consisting of Commodore Luce, Chief Engineer Loring, U. S. N., and A. B. Mullett, architect, appointed for the purpose of examining the Navy-yards of the country and ascertaining whether any of them can be dispensed with, met in Mayor Low's office, Brooklyn, N. Y., Feb. 13. Commodore Luce said the only question which the commission could deal with was whether it was advisable to sell all the Navy-yard lands. The Mayor believed that there was a clause in the deed which would cause a portion of the land to revert to New York in case it ceased to be a Navy-yard. What that portion was would have to be settled before they could talk about price. The general public sentiment, the Mayor believed, was not in favor of the removal of the yard, but was in favor of the sale of the outside lands.

ADVISES of February 6, from Panama, state that typhoid fever has broken out among the shipping at Callao. The *Harford* has been flying the yellow flag. The English ironclad *Stiefleur* and corvette *Kingfisher* have had several cases, only two of which have terminated fatally.

The new propeller for the *Omaha*, weighing 13,110 lbs., was landed at the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy-yard from the *Tallapoosa* Feb. 13. The *Tallapoosa* also brought from New York six condemned cannon donated by Congress to the Grand Army Post in Concord.

REPRESENTATIVE W. P. SHEFFIELD, of Rhode Island, introduced a resolution instructing the Finance Committee to report, by bill or otherwise, what sum, if any, the city of Newport should be paid by the State for Coasters' Harbor Island, which was deeded to the State for the establishing of a United States naval training school.

The will of the sailor, Peter A. Johnson, a member of the *Jeannette* Polar Expedition, presented in the form of a letter, which was published some time ago, was admitted to probate Feb. 14, in the Kings County Surrogate's Court. The property, amounting to about \$200, with a claim for back pay, is left to Mary A. Kline, with whom Johnson boarded when he lived in Brooklyn.

The Secretary of the Navy left Washington, February 13, for Hartford, to attend the funeral of the late Marshall Jewell, and returned two days later. During his absence Rear Admiral E. T. Nichol, by appointment of the President, acted as Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED

FEB. 9.—Captain Andrew W. Johnson, to command the *Powhatan* on the 13th of February.

Lieutenant-Commander John McGowan, Jr., to duty at the Navy-yard, League Island, Pa.

FEB. 10.—Commander Thos. S. Phelps, to hold himself in readiness to command the South Atlantic Station.

Gunner R. J. Hill to appear before the Retiring Board.

Midshipman Wm. P. White to duty on the Coast Survey.

FEB. 12.—Lieutenant-Commander Thomas Perry, as assistant to the Inspector of the 5th Lighthouse District.

Chaplain Wesley O. Holway, to the training ship *New Hampshire* on the 1st of March.

FEB. 13.—Lieutenant John S. Abbott, Master Robert H. McLean, and Ensigns Temple M. Potts and Washington I. Chambers, to special duty in the Navy Department.

Master Henry H. Hooley, to the receiving ship *Colorado*.

Ensign Henry C. Gearing, to duty at the Naval Academy on the 1st of March.

Naval Cadet Otto C. Gantner, to duty in draughting room of the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

FEB. 14.—Master Samuel W. B. Diehl, to special duty in the Bureau of Navigation.

FEB. 16.—Ensign Louis W. Piepmeyer, to the *Tallapoosa*.

Sailmaker Charles H. Jones and Frank Watson, to the receiving ship *St. Louis*.

DETACHED.

FEB. 9.—Captain E. O. Matthews, from the command of the *Powhatan* on the 13th of February, and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Engineer James H. Perry, from the *Powhatan*, and placed on waiting orders.

Pay Inspector William W. Williams, from the Lancaster, European Station, on the reporting of his relief, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

Pay Inspector Edwin Stewart, from duty as inspector of provisions at the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the Lancaster, European Station.

FEB. 12.—Chaplain Henry H. Clark, from the training ship

New Hampshire on the 1st of March, and placed on waiting orders.

FEB. 13.—Commander P. F. Harrington, from the Naval Academy on the 19th of Feb., and ordered to command the *Junata*, at Alexandria, Egypt, per steamer of February 21.

Passed Assistant Engineer J. F. Bingham, from the Coast Survey steamer *Hassler*, and ordered to duty at the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

Assistant Engineer E. T. Warburton, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., and ordered to the Coast Survey steamer *Hassler*.

Assistant Engineer Fredk. C. Bieg, from the Miantonomoh, and ordered to special duty in the Navy Department.

REVOKED.

The orders of Ensign A. N. Wood to the Coast Survey, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

RESIGNED.

Naval Cadets Fredk. H. Sargent, H. D. Wood, J. A. P. Crisfield, A. Dovaie and John M. G. Biddle.

Naval Cadet Wallace N. Proctor.

Naval Cadets Chas. C. Brown and Wm. E. Cook.

DROPPED FROM THE SERVICE.

Naval Cadets Robert W. Beckman, Joseph N. Allison, Thomas B. Smith, Hugh W. Brockway, Edwin A. Holly, Chas. K. Luzenberg, and Miles G. O'Neill.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

FEB. 9.—To F. P. Gilmore, for one year.

To Carpenter James G. Thomas, for six months, with permission to leave the United States.

COMMISSIONED.

FEB. 9.—Commodore Charles H. Baldwin to be a Rear-Admiral from January 31, 1883.

Ensign Harry H. Hooley to be a Master in the Navy from June 2, 1882.

Master John E. Roller to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from July 1, 1882.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1882.

G. C. M. Orders No. 56 approves the proceedings, etc., of General Court-martial which convened July 31, 1882, on board the U. S. S. *Ashuelot*, at Yokohama, Japan, by order of Rear-Admiral J. M. B. Clegg, U. S. N., and of which Court Commander Horace E. Mullan, U. S. N., was President, in the case of William Benter, U. S. N., found guilty of desertion and sentenced to two years' confinement, forfeiture of pay and dishonorable discharge. The sentence is remitted to eighteen months in the prison on the Cob Dock at the Navy-yard, New York.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BOSTON NAVY-YARD.

Boston, Feb. 14, 1883.

Orders have been received to have the U. S. S. *Powhatan* ready for sea by the 15th inst., and it is probable that she will sail about that time. She is now receiving her coal and stores on board.

Passed Assistant Engineer J. H. Perry, U. S. N., has returned from leave of absence to duty on board the U. S. S. *Powhatan*.

Surgeon T. C. Walton, U. S. N., has gone on a leave of absence from the U. S. S. *Powhatan*.

Chaplain D. Tribon, U. S. N., has gone on a short leave of absence from the U. S. S. *Powhatan*.

Captain Andrew Johnson, U. S. N., has reported and taken command of the U. S. S. *Powhatan*, in place of Captain E. O. Matthews, U. S. N. (detached).

Pay Director A. H. Gilman, U. S. N., and in charge of the Provision and Clothing Dept. of the Yard, fell down and sprained an ankle.

Most of the work is now being done on the U. S. S. *Shenandoah* and the tug *Rocket*.

Assistant Naval Constructor John F. Hanescom, U. S. N., Carpenter J. E. Carter, and Master Joiner William Hickborn, are appointed a board to hold a strict and careful survey on certain articles in the Construction Dept. of the Receiving ship *Wabash*.

The schooner *Annie T. Bailey*, Bureau Master, is now at the yard unloading timber from New York, and will take on board a cargo of timber which has been subjected to the patent seasoning process in use at the yard, and return to New York.

The U. S. S. *Tallapoosa*, Commander Augustus G. Kellogg, commanding, from Newport, R. I., arrived at the yard on the 9th ult., and sailed on the 12th for Portsmouth, N. H. She was delayed in Newport, having met with a mishap on her way out.

She stopped alongside of the training ship *New Hampshire* for the purpose of getting on board a steam launch for the Boston Navy-yard. The launch was hoisted up on the port side of the training ship and the steamer attempted to run alongside, her rigging caught and carried the launch overboard, damaging the launch so much that it sank, and she was obliged to proceed on her way without it. The steamer received a slight damage to her gangway, and from scraping her side. She will return to the Boston yard from Portsmouth and ship a large quantity of timber, etc., for the New York station.

Representative Morse's bill for the proposed sale of the Chelsea Hospital was presented to Congress on Monday, accompanied by a petition, signed by about 1,700 citizens of that city who favor the project. "As the tract of land is very valuable to Chelsea, and the expense of running the institution, which can be dispensed with, is enormous to the Government, the chances may be against its being retained. The latest suggestion of Mr. Morse relating to disposing of the yard failed to draw out any press comments or excite even the interest of the employees of the yard. The plan here is too valuable and necessary to be disposed of."

The great importance of the grand ropewalk, which it will be remembered, was the subject of special legislation by Congress to be kept in operation under all circumstances, the need for our magnificent machine shop, which has no superior anywhere, and the general superiority and convenience of this yard, as compared with other yards of this country, encourage the conviction that the Government will not part with it.

The superlative rank that is claimed for this yard must sustain itself without invidious comparison with all who see it. Very few people are aware of the wonderful capacity of our machine shop, its combination of all the most improved and expensive machines of massive structure and scientific completeness, making it already perfect for the details of the iron and steel ships of the future at a trifling cost only of constructing the rough shed against weather.

A draft of 18 men has arrived from the U. S. S. *Saratoga* for the U. S. S. *Powhatan*.

Lieut. Comdr. A. S. Snow, U. S. N., Boatswain J. B. Aiken, and Carpenter J. E. Keen constitute a board to survey equipment articles on the receiving ship *Wabash*.

Wm. L. Carpenter, gate keeper at the main gate, has been appointed a Deputy United States Marshal, for service in the Navy-yard, the position as now held by the captain of the watch.

Capt. Ralph Chandler resumed the duties of captain of the yard on the 9th ult.

The U. S. S. *Tallapoosa*, Comdr. A. G. Kellogg, arrived at the yard from Portsmouth Thursday.

REVENUE MARINE.

We learn that the *Dix* left Cedar Keys for Tampa and Key West on Feb. 7; the *Forward* was at Cedar Keys February 1, and sailed again the same day for Mobile, via Apalachicola and Pensacola; the *Grant*, Captain Joseph Irish, returned to Newport on the 9th, after an unsuccessful cruise in search of the *State of Georgia*; the revenue steamer *Ferry* will be rebuilt with an iron hull; her length will be 164 feet over all, 145 between perpendiculars at the load line, 28 feet beam, 11½ feet hold, 9 feet draught of water and 451 tons displacement. She will be half-bird rigged.

Captain Thomas Sunda, 82 years old, a retired captain of the U. S. Revenue Service, died in Annapolis, on Sunday, Feb. 11.

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RAZEEING THE NAVY.

"The prudent man foreseeth the evil and hideth
himself," and we have heretofore advocated the estab-
lishment of a reserved list for the Navy, believing that
if we could not have more ships it was inevitable that
Congress should insist upon it that we have fewer
officers. This demand has taken shape in the amend-
ment to the Naval Appropriation bill offered by Senator
Rollins and adopted by the Senate Naval Committee in
a modified form. We publish elsewhere this amend-
ment and a letter from the Secretary of the Navy urging
the reasons in favor of its adoption, with still further
modification. Mr. Rollins proposes to transfer 695
officers of the Navy to a supernumerary list, with leave
of absence, pay, and no promotion. The method
adopted for selecting the officers to be thus favored is
by the appointment of what is known as a "benzene
board." The Army has had its experience with such a
board, but the power it is proposed to accord to the

Navy board goes beyond that given to the similar boards
in the Army, inasmuch as it has the absolute power of
selection. This is a dangerous power to accord to any
board, however made up. In the judgment of a board,
unpopularity may be confounded with incapacity, and
that independence of spirit, which in proper subordina-
tion is to be encouraged, may prove a fatal gift to some
whose future is to be made depend upon the opinion of
the board as to their standing in the service. In advoc-
ating the establishment of a Navy reserved list we
have proposed that the selections for it should be made in
some such manner that a transfer to it would in no way
reflect on an officer's professional standing. There are
officers in the Navy, how many we cannot say, who
would voluntarily ask for a transfer to a reserved list if
the opportunity were offered them and no reflection
upon them was involved in the transfer. Would it
not be better to give such officers this opportunity before
undertaking by a system of arbitrary selection to fill up
such a list? If we have any officers in the Navy who
are neglectful of their duties or too persistent applicants
for the soft places, it might be to the advantage of the
service to reform them out altogether, if we could make
sure in any way of a proper selection, and make up our
reserved list of officers who go upon it voluntarily. To
limit the transfer of officers from the reserved to the
active list to time of actual war is a mistake, as the
necessity for their services may arise without war. We
do not believe that this country can long pursue its
policy of dispensing with a Navy, and when we have
more ships we shall need an increase of officers, and
opportunity may offer for the return of officers to active
duty.

If Mr. Rollins's amendment is adopted the offi-
cers in the Navy will be reduced to about the same
number as we had in the service thirty years ago, when
our population was less than one-half of what it is now.
The number of officers in the Navy at different periods
has stood as follows:

1800.. officers	582	1840.. officers	1,181
1812.. officers	639	1850.. officers	1,424
1820.. officers	891	1860.. officers	1,436
1830.. officers	1,063	1870.. officers	1,841

Any measure that will increase the efficiency of the
Navy or make it more popular with the country is cer-
tainly to be favored, but these statistics show that there
is no need of scrimping economy in dealing with the
service, and we do not believe there is any public de-
mand for it. Eighty-three years ago, at the beginning
of the present century, when the total expenses of the
United States were only \$2.26 a head, the expenditures
for the Navy were 65 cents a head, and more than a
quarter of the whole expenses of the country. This
year our naval expenditures will be about 40 cents a
head, or about 6 per cent. of the total expenditures of
the Government, which are now, in round figures \$7 a
head, or over \$340,000,000 for a population of some-
thing over 50,000,000. Certainly this is not an exhibit
which need alarm the country, lest it should spend too
much in ensuring that security upon the ocean and con-
sideration abroad which the dignity of a great nation
demands. The population, total expenditures, naval
expenditures, tonnage of the United States, ratio of the
increase of population, etc., for various decades are
shown here:

Year.	Population.	Total Expenditure	Naval Expenditure	Exp. to unit of pop- ulation.	Naval exp. do.	Per cent. naval exp.	Commercial tonnage United States.	Per cent of increase of pop. each decade
1790	3,929,827						274,377	
1800	5,305,929	\$11,969,740	\$3,448,716	2.26	.65	29	972,492	35.02
1810	7,239,814	13,319,987	1,654,244	1.84	.93	13	1,424,764	36.45
1820	9,638,131	21,762,025	4,387,990	2.26	.45	20	1,280,167	33.13
1830	12,866,020	24,585,282	3,239,429	1.91	.25	13	1,191,776	33.49
1840	17,069,453	28,226,534	6,113,897	1.60	.36	21	2,180,764	32.69
1850	23,191,876	44,604,718	7,904,725	1.92	.34	15	3,535,454	35.87
1860	31,443,328	77,055,126	11,514,650	2.48	.36	16	5,363,868	35.59
1870	38,923,210	292,177,168	19,431,027	7.50	.60	27	4,246,807	22.22
1880	50,155,783	267,642,958	14,456,790	5.16	.29	06	*3,700,663	28.86

* 1879.

The above table shows how slight a tax the naval ex-
penditures are upon the resources of the country. This
is, of course, no warrant for extravagance, but if ex-
perience counts for anything, it shows that our true
economy is in the direction of an increase in the effi-
ciency rather than in a decrease of the numbers of the
Navy. So far as the proposition of Mr. Rollins tends
to this, it is to be commended, but only so far.

It is melancholy to see that we have no leading
statesman who appears to comprehend and set forth
the true condition of our Navy and our commerce.
Whenever the subject comes up in Congress the vital
question seems to be merged or lost sight of in per-
sonal matters and side-issues, and the ghost of retrench-
ment comes in to complete the farcical muddle.

THE REPORT ON HEAVY GUNS.

THE admirable recommendation of the Senate Select Committee on Heavy Ordnance, which we printed in full in our last number, can scarcely fail to give great satisfaction to every one who feels an interest in the question of our national armament. The report in its main features is a practical indorsement of the views of the Getty board, and we think it may be fairly said that no programme could be marked out better fitted than that of the committee to result in a complete and satisfactory solution of the complicated and important question, of the right guns for the right places.

The scope of the proposed experiments may be said to cover two important phases of the question. First, the speedy and economical determination of a system of powerful weapons, immediately within our present manufacturing facilities, or which it is reasonable to expect may soon become so. This includes a class of large guns, from among which we may confidently expect to obtain fairly successful weapons, which, while not of the fullest power, according to the latest theoretical standards, they may yet prove infinitely more powerful than anything we now have, and equal in power to service guns abroad. No matter what may be the developments of the future, such guns will for many years to come prove powerful auxiliaries to any other systems of defence; must, in fact, constitute for a long time our main reliance, and they can be rapidly and economically produced in any emergency. The guns under this head are those of cast iron, and the same material variously combined with steel. Questions of vital interest will be settled by these trials, and the acknowledged superiority of American iron and American methods of manufacture warrant an expectation of most satisfactory results.

A second, and not less important part of the proposed tests, is that relating to guns of a different class; for, in the meantime, no effort is to be spared to place us in the van, or at least on a par with other nations, in guns specially designed for the attainment of the very highest ballistic effects. Already, experiments at Sandy Hook and Annapolis have shown that we have not much to fear on the score of powder, a department in which our original leading position was lost but temporarily, and that through lack of appropriations. We also started a better system of projectiles, and it only remains to be seen whether we cannot eventually produce steel guns of the highest power. An American steel gun is yet to be made, but we can enter upon this line of investigation with much courage and satisfaction, when it forms part of a general programme so intelligent as scarcely to fail of a successful issue.

Regarding conversions, which the Board on Ordnance had mildly condemned, the committee apparently did not regard the converted guns as coming under the head of experimental ordnance, but rather as already having a fixed standard of merit. The description and general character of the reference to these guns point rather to the muzzle-loading conversions, but in their recommendations the committee distinctly specify that they are to be breech-loaders. Opinion may differ as to the full value of this class of guns, but there is no doubt that the power of the smooth bore can be increased by converting it into a rifle, and although it may ultimately be found to be better wisdom to abandon the plan, yet, pending the proposed experiments with new structures, any step which will in the meantime increase the power of any of our old guns recommends itself with some force to public favor.

Should Congress see fit to enlarge the scope of investigation by voting a larger sum than that asked by the committee, the importance of the subject would certainly justify it; but should the amount, by any accident or casual opposition, be reduced, we believe it would be a matter of universal regret. It is a hopeful sign that the attention of Congress is directed to the imperative need of providing for some means of coast defence, and that immediately, and it is fortunate that the presence of Senator Logan on the committee ensures for its recommendations the support of a Senator so well informed on military questions and so influential in enforcing his opinions upon the attention of Congress.

THE Army Register for January, 1883, has at length made its appearance, and is exactly similar in make up to its predecessor of 1882. We find in it the same attention to details and exactness of record as has characterized the Register during the past three years, and as a volume of reference it is now invaluable. On page 327 we find two additions, viz.: the present incumbents of the positions of Superintendents of Public Buildings and Grounds in the District of Columbia, and Commandants of Cadets at the Military Academy, with the acts of Congress under which they hold advanced ranks while on duty in those positions.

During the year 1882 there have been 27 resignations, 6 vacations of commissions by reason of new appointments, 60 deaths, 1 total retirement, and 1 dismissal. In the Cavalry arm Elmer Otis heads the list of lieutenant colonels, A. W. Evans, of majors, and Louis H. Carpenter, of captains. Artillery—John Hamilton heads the list of lieutenant colonels, H. W. Closson, of majors, and M. P. Miller, of captains. Infantry—John S. Mason heads the list of lieutenant colonel; Chas. G. Bartlett, of majors, and A. S. Burt, of captains, although the latter, by the recent death of Major Sanders, has now become a major, and S. Snyder is now the senior Infantry captain. Under the compulsory law, several changes will speedily be in order, but we doubt not the Army will greatly prefer to have its Register fall behind in information by reason of the casualties of service rather than to do away with compulsory retirement and its contingent advancement.

According to the new Army Register there are at this date 415 officers on the retired list. This number includes those placed there under the act of June 30, 1882 (the Compulsory Retirement law), twenty-seven in number, as follows: Maj. Gen. McDowell, Brig. Gen. Barnes, Col. Benham, Macomb, Cuyler, King, Howe, and De Russay; Professor de Janon, Lieut. Col. Simons and J. B. M. Potter; Majors Vedder, Clarke, Brooke, and Ingersoll; Capt. Shoemaker, R. M. Potter, Gilbreth, Ellsworth, Livers, and Whyte; and Chaplains Chase, White, Reynolds, Woart, Gonzales, and Porter. Should those compulsorily retired be placed on a separate list, as contemplated by the Army Appropriation bill now under consideration, there would be now twelve vacancies in the list of these retired, for disability, etc., and a few more by June 30 next.

A review of the list evokes many memories of by gone days and eventful scenes. The names of Harney, Philip St. George Cooke, Meigs, McDowell, Ord, Marcy, Alvord, Rucker, Emory, Paul, Alexander, Seawell, David Hunter, Hoffman, Hannibal Day, O. L. Shepherd, Pitcairn Morrison, Cady, Brooks, Schriver, Pike Graham, Bomford, Kilburn, Reeves, John H. King, Whiteley, Dawson, Allen, Clary, Grier, Benham, Cullum, Macomb, Hagner, Simpson, Cuyler, and others of the old Army, still grace the pages of our Army Register, and we trust they may continue to do so for many years to come.

FOR obvious reasons we have put Gen. Wesley Merritt's name at the head of his review of the "Shenandoah Valley in 1864."

THE Massachusetts Commandery of the Loyal Legion of the United States now numbers some 500 members, full one quarter of whom attend its monthly meetings and banquets, and it has a respectable and growing permanent fund, which would have been larger but for the depredations made upon it by an officer of the order, three or four years since, who was subsequently expelled. Very wisely, as we think, the commandery has recently established a permanent headquarters, and resolved to gather a library of books, manuscripts, pamphlets, maps, etc., relating to the civil war. The commencement of this collection, by the presentation of books, etc., from members and others, is very encouraging, and at the last monthly meeting two members handed over to the recorder their checks for \$100 each for the purchase of books relating to the civil war. Now is the time to gather up these records, and it is none too soon, as many precious pamphlets have already found their way to the paper mill, and become exceedingly rare. Had the Cincinnati, in the early days of its history, sought to gather up everything relating to our revolutionary history, how priceless would be such a collection to the historians now.

In this connection, we state that it is understood a prominent and wealthy member of the Massachusetts Historical Society has authorized its librarian to purchase at his expense for the library of that society one copy of every new book published, and every book that is to be had relating to the War of the Rebellion. The Massachusetts Commandery of the M. O. L. U. S. can afford but little money for the purchase of books, and must depend for additions to the library principally and almost wholly upon the free-will contributions of its members and others. It is to be hoped that authors and publishers will bear this in mind.

ORDNANCE Orders No. 35, Washington, Nov. 20, 1882, provide that "The service ammunition will be designated in all official papers as follows: The rifle ball cartridge, solid head, reloading, with 70 gra. powder and 500 gra. bullet, will be called Rifle Ball Cartridge, model 1881. The carbine ball cartridge, solid head, reloading, with 55 gra. powder and 405 gra. bullet, will be called Carbine Ball Cartridge,

model 1882. The revolver ball cartridge, solid head, reloading, with 30 gra. powder and 230 gra. bullet, will be called Revolver Ball Cartridge, 1882. The designation Pistol Cartridge will be no longer used." This order makes a change from the old service ammunition of 70 gra. powder and 405 gra. lead to the same charge of powder, with 500 gra. of lead; that is, substituting what has been known as the "experimental ammunition" for that previously used.

WE learn that it proposed to organize a society of non-graduates of the Military Academy in our Army, as a counterpoise, we presume, for the society of graduates, which, by the terms of its organization, necessarily excludes those who cannot produce a diploma from West Point. A large majority of our officers are eligible to membership in the society proposed, but unless ex-officers are to be included in the list of members, it will lack the chief element of success in the present association of graduates, which includes those who are no longer in the service. It is the graduates of the Academy who are able to be present at West Point without asking for leave of absence who constitute a large proportion of those attending the annual alumni meeting there.

THE Secretary of War has declined to detail Colonel Rice, of the 5th Infantry, to serve as Inspector General of the Militia of Massachusetts as requested by Gov. Butler. The reason given for refusing the request was that Governors of other States might make similar requests. If Army officers could be spared for this service, it is well that they should make the request. It would be of great service to the militia to have among them Army officers who would give them the benefit of their practical knowledge of a soldier's profession, and of the many changes that modern improvements in arms and tactics have brought about. Nor would the officers thus detailed find their experience with the militia altogether unprofitable. Possibly Congress may be persuaded to provide by legislation for securing to the militia of the several States the benefit of the instruction of Army officers, either from the active or the retired list.

A MEMORIAL to Congress praying that Gen. Geo. W. Getty, colonel 3d Artillery, U. S. A., be retired "with the rank of major-general, a rank which he held when wounded at the head of his division at the battle of the Wilderness," has been extensively signed in Boston by the Loyal Legion, by ex-officers of Volunteers, and by prominent citizens generally. The language of the petition, which does honor to those who sign it, is:

Modest and unassuming, he was cool, prompt and resolute in danger. A strict disciplinarian, he was ever careful of the lives, the health and the comfort of his soldiers. Prompt and efficient in executing difficult and dangerous enterprises, he fought his troops with great vigor and determination, and held a position once occupied with unyielding tenacity. His habitual post in battle was on the line with his troops. He possessed the confidence of superiors in command, and the enthusiastic devotion of his troops, and deserved both. For three years during the war he held command, and much of the time the rank of a major-general, and as such commanding the 3d Division, 9th Corps, and later the 2d Division, 6th Corps, bore a distinguished part in the battles fought by the Army of the Potomac, and in the Shenandoah Valley campaign under Sheridan. To confer upon his declining years that rank on the retired list which during his manhood's prime he so honored in active service would, we submit, be but just to Gen. Getty, honorable to the nation, and gratifying to all who served under his banner.

ACCOMPANYING the report of Senator Logan from the Select Committee on Heavy Ordnance and Projectiles is a series of statements laid before the committee by the following persons interested in the subject of the committee's investigations: W. E. Woodbridge, Wm. Wheeler Hubbel, H. F. Mann, Col. Theodore Gates, J. R. Haskell, Gen. S. V. Benét, Wm. P. Hunt, Charles Plagge, A. H. Emery, and Norman Wiard. Mr. Wiard is by far the most prolific stater, more than half of the printed report of 272 pages being occupied with exploiting his theories. As a writer of fiction Mr. Wiard is always entertaining, and a specimen of his playful fancy is to be found on page 163 of the report. In answer to the question as to who was the chief ordnance officer of the Navy at the time of his Nut Island experiments, Mr. Wiard answered:

"Captain William N. Jeffers."

"The Chairman—Where is he now?"

"Mr. Wiard—He has skipped away to Europe. He was afraid I was going to have him prosecuted before the grand jury here for malfeasance in office."

"The Chairman—His going away to Europe would not prevent his being prosecuted."

"Mr. Wiard—He wanted to get away, perhaps, so that he might have leisure to consider what to do."

THE annual period has arrived when examining boards are in order to inquire into the qualifications of non-commissioned officers deemed eligible for promotion by their company and regimental commanders,

We hope to see a goodly number of them up for examination, and successful in their efforts to obtain that best of all things—recognition of faithful service by promotion from the ranks.

THE remarks on the subject of "promotion by selection" which we this week quote from the *United Service Gazette*, of London, are of special interest just now when this subject is under discussion in its application to our own naval service.

THE sub-committee of the Senate on the Fortification Appropriation Bill having completed their work, the bill was reported to the Senate on Friday. The bill was agreed to practically as it came from the House, with the addition of an item appropriating \$500,000 to carry out the recommendations of the special committee on heavy ordnance. Senator Logan has been talking heavy ordnance to them now for some time, and apparently he has convinced them that the hour has arrived for us to commence the work of replacing our antiquated forts and guns with a more modern system of defence. There is little or no question as to the passage of the amendment by the Senate, as agreed to by the appropriation committee, nor is there any likelihood of the House failing to agree to it, as Mr. Forney's sub-committee, to whom the bill will be referred when it goes back to the House, has already expressed its willingness to making a fair appropriation for this important purpose.

In the Military Academy appropriation bill, as finally agreed to, the proposed increase of the appropriation for the department of practical military engineering, from \$150 to \$1,000, is stricken out. The appropriation of \$1,000 for contingencies for the Superintendent of the Academy stands, and also the appropriation of \$37,000 for the completion of the addition to the Cadet barracks; \$10,000 of that sum to be immediately available.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The claims of Army officers for longevity pay under the Supreme Court decision in the Tyler case are being settled by the accounting officers of the Treasury at the rate of about 75 per cent. Nearly 400 claims have already been settled. There are about 1,500 in all, and it is expected that the entire number will be disposed of during 1883.

General Sherman gave a dinner at his residence, Thursday evening, in honor of President Arthur, who was, unfortunately, obliged to go to New York to attend the funeral of ex-Governor Morgan. In his absence the place of honor was given to the President of the Senate, David Davis, and the other guests were General Sheridan, ex-Secretary McCulloch, Justice Gray, President John W. Garrett, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Senator Hale, Senator Hoar, Albert Bierstadt, the artist; ex-Governor Curtin, Representative McLane, of Maryland; Professor Spencer F. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution; Commissioner West, the Hon. John A. King, Alexander Bliss, H. M. Hutchinson, of the Alaska Commercial Company; General Baird and Colonel Corkhill. Mrs. Sherman was the only lady present at the dinner.

The Secretary of War transmitted to the Senate on Friday a long report made by Assistant Inspector General Baird, November 10, 1881, on the history of the Signal Corps. Accompanying Col. Baird's report was a long review of it by General Hazen, in which the report was characterized as unfair; also Colonel Baird's response to General Hazen's strictures. In response to General Hazen's long review, Col. Baird claims that his report was fully sustained by General Hazen's admissions. Two points specially he says were confirmed. First, that the corps owes its existence to efforts of General Myer in the Department and before Congress, and that legislation needed was obtained by "devious methods"; second, that eight lieutenants, detailed for instruction in duties of Signal Corps in 1881, at Gen. Sherman's request, were not instructed in meteorology, although it was understood that they should be.

The confirmation of the Medical Department nominations consequent upon the death of Col. Keeney has made confusion worse confounded in the matter of promotion in the Medical Department. These confirmations are to be recalled, however, by the Senate, and referred to the Military Committee to await the action of the Senate on the provision in the Army Appropriation bill, abolishing the grade of assistant surgeon-general. In case the provision is adopted, the nominations referred to will have to be returned to the department, and remain as though they had never been made, and the nominations consequent upon the promotion of Assistant Surgeon-General Crane to surgeon-general will be made vice Keeney in their stead. In case the clause is not agreed to all will be well, and both batches of nominations will be confirmed. The defeat of this provision would seem to be the only way to avoid difficulty that would inevitably arise were it adopted, as the act would not take effect until June, and the officers nominated for promotion in consequence of Gen. Crane's promotion would, according to the laws governing promotion, be entitled to pay of the grade to which they should have been promoted from the time the

position of assistant surgeon-general became vacant. Since the confirmations of the officers alluded to have been recalled by the Senate the officers of course will not receive their commissions.

The 2d Comptroller of the Treasury, the Hon. W. W. Upton, decided several cases of interest to Naval officers, this week, in connection with the provisions of the act of August 5, 1882, relating to officers on "other duty." These cases involve questions similar to the paymasters' clerks, to which we referred some time since. In the case of Commodore R. W. Shufeldt, who was ordered from Santa Barbara, California, for duty as President of the Advisory Board, and also to examine the *Monadnock* at Mare Island, the 2d Comptroller decided that he is entitled to "other duty pay," and that payment to him for services is not deemed to be prohibited by the third section of the act in question. In the case of Assistant Naval Constructor Joseph Feaster, who did not receive an order placing him on waiting orders until eight days after it took effect, the 2d Comptroller decides that the act mentioned does not have the effect to remove the officer prior to the time of receiving the order, and that he is, therefore, entitled to "other duty pay" for the period intervening. The case of Lt. R. M. Cutts, detached from the *Mare Island Navy Yard*, Aug. 5, 1881, to report for duty in Washington, October 14, 1882, and which the 4th Auditor disallowed "other duty pay" after date of detachment, the 2d Comptroller takes the ground that the act of August 5, 1882, had the effect to relieve this officer from a duty to which he had been ordered before the act took effect. "He could not," says the 2d Comptroller, "disobey the order which directed him to proceed to Washington and report for duty, and neither the letter nor the spirit of the act will deprive an officer of the pay for the performance of a duty which he could not lawfully avoid. In the case of Lieut. J. G. Salter, which is similar to that of Commodore Shufeldt, above mentioned, the 2d Comptroller also decides that he should be allowed "other duty pay" for the time necessary to reach his home. All of the above claims were disallowed by the 4th Auditor.

The Army Registers were received by the A. G. O. early in the week, and a half a dozen clerks have been engaged during the remainder of the week in addressing and mailing them to the officers of the Army, members of Congress, and other persons who yearly receive them.

Representatives Steele, Spaulding and Bragg have been appointed a sub-committee to investigate the alleged irregularities of the management of the Soldiers' Home at Hampton Roads, Va. They have not decided yet when they will visit the Home.

Mr. Anthony introduced in the Senate on Thursday a bill similar in text to the one introduced in the House last Saturday by Mr. Harris, which authorizes the requirement of an oath as to age from recruits for the Navy before enlistment, and in the case of minors from their parents or guardians, and to empower any commissioned officer of the Navy to administer such oaths. According to existing laws it is necessary to have oaths administered by a civil officer, which is often very inconvenient and subjects the parties to a fee which should not be necessary. Commissioned officers of the Army are authorized by law to administer the oath of enlistment, and the same rule would apply very conveniently to the Navy. Secretary Chandler recommends the passage of the bill, as does also Commodore Earl English who at the request of Senator Anthony framed the bill.

RECENT DEATHS.

COL. JOHN M. FRESHKENDEN, who died February 8, at Washington, D. C., was graduated from the Military Academy July 1, 1824, and promoted same day 2d Lieutenant 4th U. S. Artillery. After various professional service, including a tour at West Point, he resigned November 30, 1831, to engage in engineering. Since that time he has held various responsible positions connected with his profession, and was a member of the Board of Visitors to the Military Academy in 1865. He removed from Boston to Washington in 1868. His funeral took place February 10 and was largely attended.

THE Navy has lost one of its most valuable officers by the death of Commander Francis Morris, U. S. N., at Newport, R. I., February 12, after a brief illness. He was but 33 years of age, in the very prime of life and usefulness. Born in New York he was appointed from that State to the Naval Academy in September, 1859, was graduated in 1863 and promoted to Ensign, October 1, of that year; attached to the *Monongahela*, of the West Gulf Squadron, in 1863 and 1864, being at the battle of Mobile Bay August 5 of that year; with the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron in 1865; was in both attacks and final assault on Fort Fisher. He was promoted Master November 10, 1866; Lieutenant February 21, 1867; Lieutenant Commander March 12, 1868, and Commander in 1882. Since the war he filled several important positions, having been on duty at the Naval Academy from 1869 to 1871; on the *Worcester*, flagship of the North Atlantic Station from 1871 to 1873; on Coast Survey and in the Hydrographic Office. Since April, 1882, he has been in attendance upon torpedo instruction at Newport, R. I. The funeral ceremonies at Newport took place February 13, and were largely attended by the Navy officers of the station and the officers of the Army at Fort Adams. The remains were then conveyed to Morrisania for interment.

Gen. GEORGE WYSE MONKIE, died, Feb. 11, at "Boothwood," his residence since 1861, at Scarborough, a village near Sing Sing. He was born at Cooperstown, Jan. 8, 1815,

and when 16 years of age entered the Military Academy, from which he was graduated in 1835, first in a class of 56. For two years after graduation he served as a 2d Lieutenant of Engineers in surveys at Lake Erie harbor, on the Michigan boundary, and in the construction of Fort Adams, in Newport harbor. He left the Army in June, 1837, and after serving as a Civil Engineer on the Michigan Central Railroad, abandoned that profession for the law, practicing in New York from 1843 until the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion. He enlisted for services in the Mexican War, and was appointed Major of the 4th New York Volunteers, but the regiment was never mustered into service. At the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion he was made Chief of Staff to Major-General Sanford, and was engaged in organizing volunteer regiments and sending them to the seat of war. He was commissioned a Brigadier-General of Volunteers in August, 1861, and from that time to the close of the war was in active service with the Army of the Potomac, participating in the battles at Hanover Court House, Mechanicsville, Malvern Hill, Gaines's Mill, Manassas, and Antietam. He was appointed Major-General of Volunteers July 4, 1862; but as the nomination was not sent to the Senate it expired, without confirmation, March 4, 1863. General Morell was mustered out of service December 15, 1864. His health was so impaired by reason of disease contracted while in the Army that he has since lived a quiet and retired life at Scarborough, N. Y. His grandfather having served as an officer in the Revolutionary Army. General Morell was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati. He was also a member of the Society of the Army of the Potomac. General Morell served for many years as a vestryman of Christ Church, Tarrytown. He leaves no family, his wife having died about two years ago. The funeral took place February 13, from Christ Church, Tarrytown. The pall-bearers were Generals Fitz John Porter, Z. P. Tower, U. S. A.; Thos. Arden, Alexander Hamilton, Col. H. A. Kendrick, U. S. A.; the Hon. Jacob Odell, and Mr. Wm. S. Wilson.

EX-GOVERNOR EDWIN D. MORGAN, justly distinguished for his eminent and patriotic services while Chief Magistrate of the State of New York during the early part of the War of the Rebellion, and as Senator of the United States, died February 14, at his residence, 411 Fifth Avenue, New York City, in the 72d year of his age. Among those present at the funeral was President Arthur, who served on Governor Morgan's staff as Quartermaster General.

Mr. William N. Beach, of 109 West Thirty-eight street, New York city, whose daughter was married on the 17th of January last to Lieut. Chas. L. Collins, 24th U. S. Infantry, died February 13, of congestion of the brain.

ACTING ASSISTANT SURGEON J. H. COLLINS, U. S. A., died at Fort Union, N. M., his post of duty, January 30, and was buried February 2, from the residence of his brother, J. S. Collins, at Topeka, Kansas.

A DESPATCH from Vienna announces the death of Field Marshal Haulab.

THAKOMBAU, King of Fiji, is dead.

[From the Dayton (O.) Journal, February 8.]

THE GRADE OF GENERAL.

ANent Col. Steele's bill, now pending in the U. S. House of Representatives to rescind so much of the Revised Statutes as discontinues the grade of General in the Army, when vacated by the present incumbent, we can say with personal knowledge that it was the intention of Gen. Garfield in one of his early messages to have recommended the very action now proposed by Col. Steele, and which was suggested by the Journal.

Gen. Garfield's appreciation of the splendid services of Gen. Sheridan, no less than those of Gen. Hancock, made their promotion an act which he contemplated with genuine pleasure. Only a few days before the assassin slew him he referred to this matter. He quoted his Columbus speech complimenting Senator Thurman, and said that under all the circumstances to promote Gen. Hancock would be to him, "the plucking of the sweetest flower that ever grew on the garden wall of party politics." Gen. Hancock's bearing towards Gen. Garfield after his election to the Presidency was very manly, and touched him very deeply. It may not be amiss to say that other than the brief note he wrote his old mother from his deathbed, the last letter Garfield ever wrote was to Gen. Hancock. It was written late in the night of the 1st of July, telling him of the pleasure he experienced in making Col. Mitchell, of his personal staff, an assistant adjutant general in the Regular Army—a promotion long deserved, and one which he happened to know Gen. Hancock had near at heart. The letter was personal, and it would be improper to quote any part of it. It was such a letter as only the poetic, sensitive nature of Garfield would dictate. It is in the possession of Gen. Hancock, and it is known to be his intention that, so long as he lives, it shall remain with him alone. He had received the letter in the morning mail of the 2d of July, and was engaged in answering it when, with the rest of the world, he was shocked with the news of the awful assassination at Washington. The letter was folded, and with the President's laid away. On his death they were sealed, and it is the intention of the General that they shall so remain, and next see the light of day along with his last will and testament. Under all these circumstances, Gen. Hancock's promotion by Gen. Garfield's successor would be little less, indeed, than poetic justice. And as to Sheridan—the honors are his. He won the full title of General on a hundred fields, and the people desire that gallant Phil shall have all that belongs to him. This is a matter about which Congress will make no mistake in making haste. Let it be done now.

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

A PROTRACTED session of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs last Saturday was occupied in discussion on the various amendments intended to be proposed to the Naval Appropriation bill. There were fourteen amendments in all before the committee, only three of which were adopted, viz: By Mr. Rollins, authorizing the President to appoint a board of nine officers of the Navy to scrutinize the active list, with a view of a reduction; by Mr. Vance, relieving the graduates of the Naval Academy of last year from the operations of the act of Aug. 5, 1882; and by Mr. Jones, of Florida, authorizing the building of a gunboat of an experimental type, to cost \$200,000. Mr. Miller, of California, also secured the adoption of an amendment providing for the completion of the *Mohican*, at the Mare Island Navy-yard, Cal.

The Rollins amendment provoked a good deal of controversy, and it was only after a long speech by Mr. Rollins that the amendment was adopted, and then by only a majority of one vote.

The Barrow amendment, relieving all the cadets in the Naval Academy appointed to and receive into the academy prior to the passage of the act of Aug. 5, 1882, from the operations of that act, barely escaped adoption, and would have passed had it not been for the recent troubles at the academy.

The committee have not determined as yet what they will do with the House amendments regarding legislation which were stricken out of the bill by the Appropriation Committee. They had expected to meet again this week to consider the matter, but did not get together on account of other matters before the Senate requiring their attention. The committee has shown very little interest in naval matters this winter; not more than three or four meetings have been held, and then very little was done, aside from acting on the naval nominations which came before them. It was with difficulty that the members were brought together last Saturday, and then there was not a full attendance. A good deal is expected of the committee when the bill is taken up in the Senate, though it is feared that they will accomplish little, owing to the unpleasantness existing between them and the Appropriation Committee.

Mr. Rollins has signified his intention of doing his utmost to secure the adoption of his amendment looking toward a reduction, though he has expressed himself as doubtful of being able to do so in view of the opposition manifested by members of the committee at its meeting on Saturday last. It will also be opposed by members of the Appropriations Committee, as they are known to be hostile to this mode of reduction.

It will be several days yet before the bill will come before the Senate, and before it does it is to be hoped that the Naval Committee will have taken some further steps toward the special legislation to which they have been intrusted.

Mr. Rollins presented to the Senate on Tuesday his amendment as agreed upon by the committee. As modified it is as follows:

Sec. 4. That the President shall appoint a board of 9 officers of high rank on the active or retired list, who shall, before the 1st day of October, 1883, thoroughly scrutinize the active list of the Navy, and shall select therefrom 6 rear admirals, 10 commodores, 40 captains, 80 commanders, 70 lieutenant commanders, 240 lieutenants, 70 masters, 70 ensigns, 100 midshipmen, 10 medical directors, 10 medical inspectors, 45 surgeons, 85 assistants and passed assistant surgeons, 8 pay directors, 8 pay inspectors, 35 paymasters, 15 passed assistant paymasters, 10 assistant paymasters, 5 chief engineers with the relative rank of captain, 10 chief engineers with the relative rank of commander, 40 chief engineers with the relative rank of lieutenant commander or lieutenant, 55 passed assistant engineers, 35 assistant engineers with the relative rank for each as now fixed by law, 12 chaplains, 6 professors of mathematics, 8 naval constructors, 4 assistant naval constructors, 3 civil engineers, 30 boatswains, 80 gunners, 30 carpenters, and 20 sailmakers to be retained on the active list of the Navy to discharge the current duties of the service under the laws and regulations governing it; and all others now on said list shall be considered supernumerary, and shall be placed on a separate list, not entitled to promotion and with leave of absence pay, but subject to be ordered to service with the proper pay of their grade only in time of war; and they shall retire on reaching the age as fixed by law, or at any time before reaching that age on their own application; and the officers so retained as above provided shall be entitled to their promotion, after proper service and examination, as occasion may occur, without regard to the officers remaining on the supernumerary list: *Provided*, That all officers of the Navy shall be retired upon reaching the age of 62 years.

With reference to this amendment, the Secretary of the Navy has written to Senator Rollins, as follows:

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, February 11, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, inclosing a copy of a proposed amendment to the naval appropriation bill, and asking me to inform you "what, in my opinion, will be the effect if the amendment is adopted; how many officers will be taken from the active list, and by what amount, if any, it will lessen the expenses of the Government;" also asking me for "any suggestions or information regarding the amendment which I may be pleased to give."

In reply I have to say that if adopted as it now stands, the amendment will place on the supernumerary list 695 officers of all grades, with an immediate total annual saving to the Government of \$206,300, which saving of expenses will be increased by the lapse of time. I would, however, suggest certain modifications to the amendment, as follows:

That 100 midshipmen, ten assistant paymasters, twelve chaplains, six professors of mathematics, eight naval constructors, four assistant naval constructors, three civil engineers, 30 boatswains, 30 gunners, 30 carpenters and 20 sailmakers be retained on the active list. This would place on the supernumerary list 446 officers of all grades, with an immediate annual saving of \$111,200. I would also suggest that a clause be added retiring all officers of the Navy at the age of 62 years. As the law now stands no officer can be retired on account of age until he has reached the grade of commander.

I would further suggest that the board to carry the law into effect be increased to nine members.

With these changes I am in favor of the amendment becoming a law. If the Navy is to be reduced this is a prompt,

practical and efficient way of making the reduction and the saving of money begins at once.

Its adoption will take from the various grades of the active list of the Navy only those officers who, because we have more officers than are necessary for our present number of ships, and for various other reasons, are now practically supernumeraries and will, I believe, inspire fresh zeal on the part of the officers retained for active service and result in great good to the naval establishment.

Further observation of the condition of the naval service convinces me that some such additional reformatory legislation as that above advocated is required for the public welfare. The total list of officers July 1, 1882, was:

937 on sea duty receiving an annual pay of...	\$1,883,900
641 on shore and other duty, receiving.....	1,568,300
236 on waiting orders and receiving.....	376,300
77 officers of the Marine Corps on active list.....	174,040
301 officers on the retired list.....	703,190
13 officers of Marine Corps on retired list....	25,858

Making 2,203 officers in all, receiving annually.....\$4,723,478

Naturally it requires strong convictions and great firmness to sustain any person who may undertake to lessen the privileges or emoluments of this great military array maintained in connection with 31 old-fashioned ships, 264 inferior guns and only 8,000 seamen. But the work is, nevertheless, a public duty, the performance of which I shall never cease to recommend. Unless accomplished, the popularity of the whole naval establishment will be endangered.

In any event it is to be hoped that there will be no repeal of any of the reformatory legislation of last year. It was wisely decided that the Navy should not be enlarged by the addition of a single new officer beyond the 2,203 then in the service. There are to-day many more naval officers, old and young, than there is employment for, and the pressure for "shore duty" is almost unendurable.

To reverse the decision made last year and actually increase the number would be unjustifiable.

Of the 125 cadet-midshipmen and 60 cadet-engineers now on probation, probably 40 will enter the naval service under the existing law. To add by one stroke of legislation the remaining 140 to the naval list would increase the Navy needlessly, would burden the public Treasury improperly, and would invite the young officers to positions where there is no work for them to do, and from which another Congress ought to relieve them by legislation for a reduction of the Navy.

However much I may regret their disappointment, and that of their parents, who have expected they were to be employed and supported for life by the United States Government, I cannot believe that there is any good reason for imposing such an unnecessary public burden. No contract is violated, and no serious hardship is enforced, for, as stated in my annual report, "those cadets who are not needed for the Navy will have received a superior education at the Government expense, and with a donation of one year's pay in advance will return to civil life admirably fitted to enter and to succeed in the most lucrative employments of peace, while standing always ready, with their naval capacities enlarged by their professional or business experience, to come to the aid of the country in time of war."

W. E. CHANDLER, Secretary of the Navy.

The amendment to the Naval Appropriation Bill, as proposed by Mr. Rollins, would place on the supernumerary list officers, with a saving of money, as follows:

3 rear admirals.....	
13 commodores.....	\$10,000
7 captains.....	
9 commanders.....	
10 lieutenant-commanders.....	
36 lieutenants.....	7,200
28 masters.....	5,700
28 ensigns.....	5,600
96 midshipmen.....	29,400
5 medical directors.....	3,000
5 medical inspectors.....	2,400
5 surgeons.....	
9 passed assistant and assistant surgeons.....	2,200
5 pay directors.....	1,000
5 pay inspectors.....	1,600
15 paymasters.....	3,200
15 passed assistant paymasters.....	1,600
20 assistant paymasters.....	11,000
5 chief engineers, with rank of captain.....	4,000
5 chief engineers, with rank of commander.....	3,200
— chief engineers, with rank of lieutenant-comdr.....	
44 passed assistant engineers.....	8,800
36 assistant engineers.....	14,400
21 chaplains.....	10,000
11 professors.....	9,900
11 naval constructors.....	10,000
6 assistant constructors.....	3,000
10 civil engineers.....	9,000
53 boatswains.....	11,700
30 gunners.....	10,500
34 carpenters.....	11,700
27 sailmakers.....	8,700
33 mates.....	7,600

695 206,300

The amendment to the Naval Appropriation bill, modified as suggested by the Secretary of the Navy will place on the supernumerary list officers, with a saving of money, as follows:

3 rear-admirals.....	
13 commodores.....	\$10,000
7 captains.....	
9 commanders.....	
10 lieutenant-commanders.....	
36 lieutenants.....	7,200
28 masters.....	5,700
28 ensigns.....	5,600
5 medical directors.....	3,000
5 medical inspectors.....	2,400
5 surgeons.....	
9 passed assistant and assistant surgeons.....	2,200
5 pay directors.....	1,000
5 pay inspectors.....	1,600
15 paymasters.....	3,200
15 passed assistant paymasters.....	1,600
10 assistant paymasters.....	5,500
5 chief engineers (rank of captain).....	4,000
5 chief engineers (rank of commander).....	3,200
44 passed assistant engineers.....	8,800
36 assistant engineers.....	11,300
12 chaplains.....	1,700
5 professors of mathematics.....	5,500
3 naval constructors.....	1,800

2 assistant naval constructors.....	7,000
7 civil engineers.....	5,400
23 boatswains.....	8,300
22 gunners.....	1,900
24 carpenters.....	2,700
17 sailmakers.....	2,100
33 mates.....	7,600

446 111,200

ARMY DESERTIONS.

This is a very free country. People are encouraged to express opinions. Some papers will publish anything sensational or demagogical, and there are always plenty of persons who, to gain a little cheap notoriety, will address open letters on such subjects to Congress or prominent individuals. Veritable Dogberys are most of these, though they need nothing but their own pens to be "writ down an ass."

I am led to these reflections by an article on Army Desertion in your issue of Jan. 18th, in which you quote Mr. Louis Schlade, who, it appears, has ventilated himself in a letter to the Military Committees of the two Houses of Congress, in the interests of the German privates of the Regular Army.

There are a good many foreign patriots in this country who make their living by trading upon the natural love that every true man has for his fatherland. These patriots subserve their own interests by appeals to that love, and by preventing, as far as possible, the people of their nationality from merging into people of our nationality. Could the immigrants who crowd to our shores be so de-humanized as to throw off their instinctive love for, and pride in, their native land, and settle down at once into American citizens, "without regard to place of birth, the mass of these foreign patriots would really have to go to work, and earn their living like other people. This would be hard on them, but it would save the country the infliction of a great deal of balderdash, both in speech and in writing.

The German enlisted men of the Regular Army have no need of the very amiable, but officious, interference of Mr. Louis Schlade. No class of soldiers stand better with their officers. None are more trustworthy and efficient, or show more cheerful obedience to discipline. They are largely represented in the non-commissioned officers of companies, the non-commissioned staff of regiments, and in the commissioned officers of the line of the Army—thus fully attesting the sterling value of the original material. In proportion to the numbers enlisted no nationality gives us so few desertions.

Mr. Schlade's statements that "one of the principal causes of desertion is the autocratic and inhuman treatment which the American soldier gets on the part of the officers of the Republic;" that "the corporal punishments which soldiers receive often make it necessary to inquire whether we live in the 19th century or in the last;" that, "among them are some who have been in the Army for three years who have never handled a musket or been drilled in the use of arms, but have been employed for all other kinds of work, even as baby-nurses for officers' wives, etc.," are all utterly untrue and simply thrown out for effect. Most of his other statements are equally untrue and equally introduced for effect, and his whole letter might well be dismissed as beneath contempt, but that the subject of Army desertion is just now engaging the attention of some of the best military minds of the country.

In all Mr. Schlade's statements there is but one statement of fact, and I must do him the justice to say that he hits the nail squarely on the head when he says that one of the principal causes of desertion is the unwholesome work required of our soldiers.

Nine-tenths of the men who enlist could command higher wages as laborers than they receive as soldiers. But they object to work. They don't like it, and come into the Army to avoid it. This is especially the case with newly arrived foreigners. The peace establishments of European nations are maintained on the most vigorous war footing. Soldiers are expected and required to do nothing but their military duties. Our little Army, on the contrary, is a band of pioneers. Though always prepared for fight, if necessary, fighting is the least part of its work. It must explore unknown wildernesses, lay out and construct roads, build posts and telegraph lines, drive teams, load and unload wagons, cut hay, hew wood and draw water. Its work is never done. There is not a post in the West where the soldiers do not have to work hard on duties unknown to European soldiers.

The foreigner who does not like work enlists in our Army to avoid work. To his utter disgust he finds when he arrives at his Western post, that he must not only be perfect in his drill and guard duties, but he must labor, day in and day out, on work which, in European armies, is performed by employees, not soldiers. Instead of the lazy, one-ideal life of the European soldier, he discovers that he has taken upon himself the duties of soldier, day laborer, pioneer, engineer, mechanic; anything necessary to be done he has to do. His enlistment having been primarily caused by aversion to work, this condition of affairs naturally discontents him, and he wants to get out of his bargain. This is undoubtedly the first and greatest cause of desertion in our Army.

The next greatest cause is that no one in authority seems to regard desertion as anything more than a breach of contract. A man deserts, is captured, tried, convicted, and sent to the prison at Leavenworth, serves out his sentence, and then by authority of the War Department is enlisted again, and sent possibly to the very company from which he deserted. The War Department having thus rehabilitated him, and condoned his crime, it cannot be expected that his comrades should take any more serious view of him or of it, and as the War Department decides that he is a fit comrade for them, they cannot object if they would. He regales them with stories of the good food, light work and easy life of the prison, and they naturally contrast these

with their own hardships. Their rough campaigns, hard marches, dreary watches when on guard with the thermometer below zero, their fatiguing duties by day, their sufferings by night. I have myself seen a letter from a convict in the prison at Leavenworth to a friend in a company then on an active campaign, urging him to desert—picturing on the one side the easy life, good food and excellent accommodations of the prison, and on the other the hardships and suffering of a winter campaign against Indians, with the chances of being killed or frozen, and winding up with the reminder that if he behaved well in prison, he could easily get permission to enlist again when he had served out his sentence.

Let the Government recognize desertion as the greatest crime a soldier can commit, not to be condoned in any way, nor under any circumstances whatever, and desertions will be greatly diminished.

A third cause of desertion is the ease with which it can be done, and the difficulty of identification and apprehension. A well-posted officer who has closely studied the subject told me that he believed that only about six hundred men per year make up the whole long list of our deserters. Most of these are discontented grumblers, without honor or character, who remain in any one company only so long as everything is comfortable and easy. What matter, should one of these be caught. He pleads guilty, serves out his sentence, and on his discharge from prison enlists to enter again on his old career.

Many men, especially western river men, enlist in winter when navigation has closed, fully intending to desert in the spring. Many men in the East enlist simply to procure transportation to the West. Let any officer recall the history of some of the deserters (as given by themselves), who surrendered under the Presidential proclamation of 18—Nearly all these men acknowledged two or more, and one to my knowledge admitted nine desertions in less than five years.

The greatest assistance to every class of deserters is the present system of bi-monthly payments, and the gambling that ensues immediately thereafter. In a few days after a payment nearly all the money is in comparatively few hands. If the would-be deserter has won, he goes at once; if not, he waits until fortunate enough to "make his stake" after some future visit of the paymaster. Or, after one of these gambling bouts (which it is impossible to prevent), a man who has had no intention to desert finds himself the owner of five or six hundred dollars. It is wealth to him, and he is tempted to desert, either to go into some business, or to have a grand frolic until the money is gone.

In our frontier Army soldiers must work. That cause of desertion cannot be removed so long as we have an interior frontier.

The second cause can be removed by the action of the War Department.

The third can be nearly removed by indelibly marking every convicted deserter (thus breaking up the trade of the repeaters), and by paying the troops weekly or even daily, if necessary.

DUGAN.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS—2d SESSION.

The Speaker laid before the House, Feb. 15, a communication from the Secretary of War in reference to a House resolution calling for information in regard to what steps have been taken to secure the capture of Capt. H. W. Howgate. After reciting the facts which led to the arrest of Howgate, the Secretary goes on to say: "It is not known to this department why the trial of Howgate was not had in the period within his arraignment (Nov. 23, 1881,) and escape (April 13, 1882.) The Chief Signal Officer had caused the evidence against him to be thoroughly prepared before the arraignment, and was at all times ready and anxious to give the necessary assistance at the trial. I am advised that the Chief Signal Officer repeatedly urged a speedy trial, and expressed his regret to the special counsel on the delay in putting the case on the trial calendar. . . . The department has no funds which can be used in taking measures, probably necessary, for the capture of Howgate."

The resolution adopted by the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, resisting the imputation cast upon the memory of the loyal citizen and perfect soldier George H. Thomas in the Senate of the United States, and praying that partisan complexion be not given to questions of a purely military character, were received in the House, Feb. 14, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House Naval Committee agreed on Friday to report favorably the bill tendering the thanks of Congress to Capt. J. H. Gillis, U. S. N., for meritorious service in saving lives of sailors.

The Senate has promised itself day after day for the past week that each day should wind up discussion on the tariff bill. The week has about passed and still this matter has not been disposed of. The programme now is to finish the pending subject Friday, and immediately take up either the Army or Navy appropriation bills, though it is probable that the tariff debate may run into Saturday night. It is a matter yet to be decided which one of the appropriation bills is to be considered first, the Army bill has precedence, though, as Senator Hale, in view of the long discussion that is likely to ensue, is anxious to take up the Naval bill as early as possible, Senator Logan may yield to him for that purpose.

The House Naval Affairs Committee decided Friday morning not to report favorably the bill placing Congressman Robert Smalls, of South Carolina, one of the colored members of the House, on the retired list of the Navy as captain. In lieu thereof the committee will report in favor of a reappraisal of the vessel that Smalls brought out of Beaufort to the Federal fleet during the war, with a view to giving Smalls increased prize money.

At the regular meeting of the House Committee on

Naval Affairs, Feb. 13, the following bills and resolutions were agreed to favorably:

H. R. 7547, to authorize the requirement of an oath as to age from recruits for the Navy before enlistment, and in the case of minors from their parents or guardians. Said oaths may be taken before any commissioned officer of the Navy authorized to enlist recruits.

H. R. 7466, for the relief of the officers and men of the U. S. S. *Rodgers*, burned in St. Lawrence Bay, Nov. 18, 1882.

H. Res. 344, authorizing the sale of the Naval and Marine Hospital at Chelsea, Mass. This action was taken with the understanding that if Secretary Chandler, in his answer to the resolution of the House of Feb. 10 on this subject, should be adverse to the sale of the hospital the committee should reconsider its action.

The resolution of Mr. Jacobs, introduced in the House Feb. 12, requesting the Secretaries of the Navy and Treasury to report to the House what means are now employed by law and the regulations of their departments for the security of human life and the safety of passengers and seamen on river, lake, and ocean steamers and other naval vessels, and of Mr. O'Neill, of Feb. 10, requesting the Secretary of the Navy to report whether or not aerial night signals have been adopted for use in the Navy, etc., were reported back to the House favorably.

The Senate Military Committee, Feb. 13, agreed to report favorably S. 2098, authorizing the settlement of the claim of the State of Florida on account of expenditures made in suppressing Indian hostilities; also Senate 1843, dedicating the military reservation at Plattsburg, N. Y., to the village of Plattsburg for a public park. It has been recommended by the General of the Army, concurred in by Gen. W. S. Hancock, and approved by the Secretary of War, that the barracks and military reservation at this place, being no longer required for military purposes, should be abandoned as a military post.

Senate bill 409, for relief of John A. Hart, late assistant surgeon 9th regiment Kansas volunteers, was rejected.

SENATE.

Feb. 12 Mr. Vest presented the memorial of Rufus J. Lackland, George S. Drake, and a number of other eminent citizens of St. Louis, Mo., in regard to General William Tecumseh Sherman, as General Sherman is about to be retired from the Army and will make his home hereafter in the city of St. Louis. This, he added, "is in the nature of a testimonial, if I may so speak, of the citizens of that city asking that he be placed on the retired list with the rank of General. I will read the petition:

We, the undersigned citizens of Missouri, hereby attach our names to this memorial to express our respect and regard for one whose distinguished services have endeared him to his countrymen, and whose deeds are recorded high on the world's monument of honor. Distinguished in war, he has been alike distinguished in peace, promoting ever the best interests of the whole country.

And that these our sentiments may have more than the ephemeral endurance of complimentary words, we respectfully urge upon the Legislature of the nation that the act by which William Tecumseh Sherman will be retired from the active list of the Army be so amended as to fulfil the entire intention of the original act which created him General of the Armies of the United States for life.

As citizens of the State in which General Sherman has elected to spend the remaining years of his most honorable career should the retiring act remain unchanged, we regret to lose the certain benefits of his tireless energy and broad public views; but we feel assured our loss will be the country's gain; and we believe, also, that from many, if not from all the States of the Union, similar expressions of love and confidence in and gratitude to this citizen—of no one State, but of the United States—and requesting like action on your part, will reach you.

The petition was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Senate, Feb. 12, received a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting, in answer to a resolution of Feb. 5, a report of the Chief of Ordnance of the numbers of condemned and obsolete cannon, and where situated. Among the cannon recently voted for monumental purposes were bronze cannon to erect a monument to Gen. Lytle, of whom Gen. Rosecrans said in advocating the bill:

General Lytle was a soldier, a scholar, and a patriot. He was wounded seven times in the service of his country, and never received a pension. If this country can honor honest soldierly services; if it honors patriotism or honors scholarly attainments, they all combined can be honored by doing honor to the memory of General William H. Lytle; and for my part I do not think that any cannon which we can donate to the city of Cincinnati to erect a statue to his memory would be worthy of the man or more than his distinguished and gallant services demand from his country.

House bill for the relief of Lieut.-Col. T. J. Baylor was referred to the Senate Committee on Pensions.

HOUSE.

The following was passed by the House Feb. 9, the same resolution having already passed the Senate:

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring. That the report of Lieut. John T. Sullivan, of the U. S. Navy, on the problem of interoceanic communication by way of the American isthmus, be printed with 5,000 additional copies, of which 1,500 shall be for the use of the Senate and 3,500 for the use of the House and 500 for the use of the Navy Department.

The House bill for the relief of Major Jacob E. Burbank was laid on the table Feb. 10, the Senate bill for the same purpose having been already passed. The bill appropriating \$10,000 for a monument to Maj. General the Baron de Kalb was passed by the House. The following resolution was adopted on motion of Mr. Morse:

Resolved. That the Secretary of the Navy be requested to inform this House whether or not, in his judgment, it would be to the interest of the Government to sell the marine and naval hospitals at Chelsea, Mass.; and whether any injury would be done to the service by such sale.

The following, submitted by Mr. O'Neill, was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs:

Resolved. That the Secretary of the Navy be requested to inform the House whether or not aerial night signals have been adopted for use in the Navy; and if patented the name of the patentee, and the names, so far as he knows, of the owner or owners thereof.

Mr. Hutchins tried to bring up for passage in the House, Feb. 12, the bill to relieve Alfred Pleasanton as a major general, but objection was made.

Mr. Upson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back with a favorable recommendation Senate bill 1483, for the relief of Guy V. Henry; which was referred to the private calendar, and, with the accompanying report, ordered to be printed.

The bill for the relief of Edward Bellows was passed by the House Feb. 13. Omitting the preamble, which recites the facts in his case, it is as follows:

Be it enacted, etc. That the President of the United States be and he hereby is, authorized to nominate and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint the said Edward Bellows paymaster in the Navy of the United States, to take rank and position on the list of such paymasters in the position where his name now stands on the Register as above stated: *Provided*, That such appointment shall not entitle the said Edward Bellows to compensation during the time his name was not borne on said list, and during which he was not recognized as a paymaster in the service: *Provided further*, That after such appointment the said Edward Bellows shall be entitled to longevity pay upon his said commission of date Feb. 20, 1866.

The bill granting a railroad right of way through the Fort Smith military reservation was also passed.

Mr. Cockrell submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to:

Resolved. That the Secretary of the Navy be directed to transmit to the Senate, as soon as possible, copies of the advertisements and notices published by his orders on Aug. 5 and Nov. 17, 1882, and of the letter of the Sec. of the Navy of Jan. 29, 1883, to the Naval Advisory Board, and of the report of proceedings of said Naval Advisory Board touching plans, models, and designs of vessels, or any parts thereof, the order appointing same, and the names of the members, and its officers and employees, authorized by act of Aug. 5, 1882.

The following, submitted by Mr. Jacobs, was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs:

Resolved. That the Secretary of the Navy and of the Treasury, respectively, be directed to report to the House what means are now employed by law and regulations of their department for the security and preservation of human life and the safety of passengers and seamen on river, lake and ocean steamers and other naval vessels, particularly the character of any life-saving apparatus employed and carried on such vessels, and of life preservers, their material, weight, buoyancy, efficiency and cost of the same, and the yearly public expenditure therefor, and by what experimental tests, if any, the same may have been approved, together with any recommendation deemed expedient to further insure the safety of human life on naval vessels, or on those of commerce.

Resolutions and memorials against the transfer of the Revenue Marine and Life-Saving Services continue to be presented to Congress.

BILLS INTRODUCED (HOUSE.)

H. R. 7547, by Mr. B. W. Harris, to authorize the requirement of an oath as to age from recruits for the Navy before enlistment, and, in the case of minors, from their parents and guardians; and to empower certain officers of the Navy to administer such oaths.

H. R. 7549, by Mr. Belford, appropriating \$100,000 for the construction of a military post or depot at such point in Western Colorado as may be selected by the Secretary of War.

H. R. 7551, by Mr. Belford, to pay to the heirs of Brig. General Wm. Thompson, of the Revolutionary Army, the sum that may have been found due to him.

H. R. 7567, by Mr. Ray, to promote the efficiency of the Naval Observatory. *Be it enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act, no one but an experienced practical astronomer, of well-established reputation, shall be made Superintendent of the Naval Observatory.

H. R. 7574, and S. 2471, to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to appoint Dr. A. Sidney Tebbe an assistant surgeon in the U. S. Marine Hospital Service.

H. R. 344, authorizing the sale of the Naval and Marine Hospital at Chelsea, Mass.

H. R. 7568, by Mr. Ketcham, to carry into effect the recommendation of the Board of Admirals convened under the joint resolution approved Feb. 5, 1879, in the case of Capt. Henry Erben, U. S. Navy. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

THE DEPARTMENT CLERKS.

THE Congressional economist has found a method of increasing the clerical force in the departments at Washington without any corresponding increase in the appropriation for clerical service. It is somewhat on the order of that increase of fortune which a sanguine merchant obtained by marking up the price of his stock of goods, and is thus described by Mr. Cannon in a speech on the Legislative Appropriation bill:

"At present the length of daily service in the different departments is discretionary with the head of the department. It is six and a half hours in the Treasury Department—I suppose about six hours net of work, there being a half hour for lunch. This bill provides for eight hours' work, which of course would be diminished by the hour or half hour; or whatever time the head of the department might choose to allow for lunch or dinner. He will, of course, I suppose, fix a reasonable time. That lengthening of daily service is equivalent to an increase of 1,090 clerks. [The present force in the departments is 7,491.—Ed.] The estimate submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury asked for an additional force of clerks amounting to 431. The committee were called upon to give this increase in whole or in part, or to provide in some other way for the performance of the work. We did not give the increase. On the contrary, there is a decrease of 45 employees in the different departments; but we did provide for an increase of work, by the increase of the hours of labor."

In answer to Mr. Cannon Mr. Mills states, as the result of ten years' experience in Congress, that he had always found the clerks and employees "in the departments to be prompt, efficient, and polite in the discharge of their duties; but," he added, "I must make a complaint of the officers higher than the clerks—the heads of bureaus and divisions. I have frequently gone to the departments—and this has been the case within the last three weeks—between 10 and 11 o'clock in the morning, and not found the heads of bureaus and divisions at their posts. I have been invited to take a seat and told that they were expected to come in a few minutes. Sometimes when it was an hour or an hour and a half after 9 o'clock I have waited fifteen or twenty minutes and have had to leave without seeing them. I think it would be well to require in this provision that the heads of departments, bureaus, and divisions shall

be prompt in their attendance and in the discharge of their duties."

Mr. Cannon explained that the term "employees," as used in the bill was intended to cover the heads of departments, but Mr. Wait thought it ought to cover cabinet officers also, and persisting, he said:

"Does not the gentleman know that in every one of these departments the great body of the clerks work overtime almost every day? Certainly, to my knowledge, many of them in many of the departments work until they are compelled to continue their labor by gas-light. They perform their allotted tasks faithfully and cheerfully, and that, I think, is all that should be required of them. If those tasks cannot be performed within the time they have been required to work by the existing law (and I presume the gentleman from Illinois knows that the statement which I make in regard to overwork to be the fact) they work unhesitatingly overtime until the entire task which a full discharge of their duties requires of them is completed."

FORTS AND GUNS AT ALEXANDRIA.

THE current number of the "Journal of the Naval Institute," Annapolis, Md., contains an interesting series of papers on the operations of the British navy and transport service during the Egyptian campaign of 1882. First, we have a history of the bombardment of Alexandria, prepared by Ensign Charles C. Rogers, U. S. N., from materials supplied by the files of the office of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department. Accompanying this is Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour's official report of the bombardment. The defenses of Alexandria and the damage resulting from the bombardment are described by Ensign Thomas D. Griffin, U. S. N., and the result of the English bombardment of Forts Mex, Ras-el-Tin, Ada, and Pharos, Alexandria, and the preparations for flooding Lake Mareotis, by Ensigns Albert Gleaves, U. S. N., and Charles McCartney, U. S. N. An account of the work of the navy and marines on shore is given in a despatch from Maj. Gen. Evelyn Wood and in a resume of marine operations furnished by one of the officers of the battalion. The English naval brigade and batteries in Egypt are described by Lieut. Charles F. Norton, and the armored train used by the English forces at Alexandria by Lieut. Nathan H. Barnes, U. S. N. An account is given of the seizure of the Suez Canal. Lord Charles Beresford's unreserved commendation of machine guns is copied, full details of the transport service for Egypt are furnished, and the transports used are described by Lieut. Albion V. Wadhams, U. S. N. Surgeon John W. Cole, U. S. N., briefly describes the Hospital service of the English army and the water supply of Alexandria, and Paymaster Jonathan Q. Barton, U. S. N., the subsistence of the English forces in Egypt. Concluding this valuable series of papers, we have a copy of the instructions issued by the English war office for the guidance of Sir Garnet Wolseley, and a sketch of the officers created peers as a reward for their success in Egypt. This volume furnishes more in detail information which has heretofore been given in brief in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and it forms a most valuable *mémoire pour services*. The text is made clearer in many places by the insertion of diagrams. From the various papers we gather the statements which follow concerning the condition of the guns in the Egyptian forts after the bombardment.

In Fort Mex the smoothbores were uninjured, but all the rifles were dismounted. The latter were struck on the left side, the effect being very curious. The 8-inch rifle was hit direct about two feet forward of the trunnions, and the tubes displaced one quarter of an inch; the weld in the last turn of the B tube was imperfect, about 18 inches of the coil projecting straight out from the piece. The force of the blow had overturned the slide, the carriage and gun were disconnected from the slide and from each other and lying on the ground. Two other rifles were struck obliquely forward of the trunnions. In both cases the carriages were torn to pieces, and the guns fell through the slides, each bracket on its own side. Large quantities of ammunition and hundreds of torpedoes were found in the fort uninjured.

In considering the effects of the heavy cannonade on this fort (Mex), it is noticeable that the fortification was injured very little; the damage it did sustain could have been easily repaired in a few hours. The English fire seems to have been concentrated especially on the rifled guns and with wonderful accuracy. The shell houses were completely demolished, and the top of the magazine furrowed in three places by large shell, and its side struck twice, apparently by small shot, but it was not penetrated and consequently not exploded as has been erroneously reported.

In Fort Ada the damage to the battery is as follows: The 10-inch rifle apparently had a premature explosion, the projectile bursting near the muzzle. The lands of the rifling were deeply cut up, and there were deep scores in the grooves between. A deep, heavy crack or cut ran longitudinally on the under side, and a number were found on the chase, running transversely. Two 2 inch S. B. were struck and dismounted, and the carriages both smashed. The three 9-inch rifles and the 8-inch were all in good condition, as they were but little used. A large quantity of projectiles, many of which were broken, was found here, but the evidence was that they were stored in the magazine which exploded, as they were all found immediately in rear of it. Several projectiles were found imbedded in the sand at this fort, and were in good condition, having failed to explode from the lack of resistance opposed to them. One large 80-ton gun battering shell, from the *Invincible*, was found unexploded, upon the parapet, and pointing seawards. In conversation with the gunnery lieutenant of the *Invincible*, I learned that many projectiles were found thus, the theory being that, towards the end of their trajectory, having almost lost their velocity, they turned over and fell so—on the boomerang principle.

In Ras-el-Tin the damage to the battery was as follows: One 9 inch Armstrong gun, by its own recoil

carried away the training bolt which confined it in the embrasure, drawing it out of the soft stone, and fell back on the rear end of the slide, elevating the forward part and rendering the gun completely useless. Another 9 inch gun in exactly the same condition, caused by a shell striking and carrying away the embrasure in which the gun was situated. A third 9 inch gun dismounted and carriage demolished by being struck with a shell, which tore off the outer hoop over the trunnions, knocked the gun over and buried two men beneath it. A fourth 9 inch gun rendered useless by having a projectile in the gun, butt out, evidently placed in that position during the excitement of the engagement. The garrison made repeated efforts to dislodge it, but being near the muzzle they were swept away at every attempt, and the gun silenced. One 8 inch gun knocked off the carriage and the latter demolished by a shell striking the embrasure and exploding. The 9 inch gun mounted on the Moncrieff carriage was uninjured, and apparently but little used, if at all. Thus it will be seen that the four 9 inch guns and one of the 8 inch guns were rendered useless, and the 10 inch gun showed cracks running around the chase near the muzzle, the result of the repeated firing, these cracks being a marked feature in all the Armstrong guns used.

Many of the Egyptian guns were disabled by their own recoil. The pivot bolts were drawn out, the guns thereby thrown off their tracks, and hence training was rendered impossible. Many of the explosions of shells from the ships were premature. Large numbers of percussion shells had "tumbled" and were found unexploded. By far the greater number of these shells were armor-piercing. The coral and sandstone cement of the fortifications did not present sufficient resistance to explode them. Against embankments the 16 inch shells of the 80-ton gun were no more effective than those of less calibre. The Egyptians had fought their guns to the last, but the fire of the fleet was crushing and the weight of its metal so superior that their resistance, though very creditable, was yet ineffective. Had they used shell instead of round shot, the casualties in the fleet might have been much greater.

Reports from Alexandria all concur in testifying to the great assistance rendered to the bombardment by the machine guns attached to the fleet, more especially in driving the men in forts Ada and Pharos from their guns. These guns fired between thirty and forty thousand rounds while the ships were engaged with the forts, and it is to this continuous hail of bullets pouring into the embrasures that is attributed the unsteadiness of the enemy's fire, and in a great measure the rapidity with which the Egyptians were driven from their guns. In two instances it was found that the chilled steel shot had buried themselves between the grooves within the bore of the enemy's guns, completely disabling these pieces, which could no longer ram home their charges. Had they been loaded at the time and afterwards fired, the probabilities are that the muzzles of those two guns would have been blown off, or would have burst at the point where the shot was lodged within and consequently choked the bore. The effect of the fire upon Fort Pharos was tremendous; the masonry was completely riddled. Many of the guns in the casemates were dismounted, but the rifled guns on the parapets escaped uninjured; though one was temporarily disabled by earth thrown under the slide by a shell. A 10 in. gun in this fort was rendered useless by injuries to its embrasure, and two others were dismounted and their carriages smashed. One small 6 in. gun was thrown by a projectile over the parapet and through the roof of the casemate below, shattering its carriage. In all the guns cracks were visible, running transversely around the chase; no other part of these guns seems to have been injured or suffered from the fire.

Mr. McCartney says: "The fuze used by the English, as far as I could learn from persistent inquiries, was 'the general service percussion fuze.' From various sources I find that a very small percentage of the shells exploded, probably not as many as one-fourth—especially those which struck the earth and sand—and of those which did explode, the fragments were few and large, frequently breaking in not more than two or three pieces, generally in two halves transversely. All that were uninjured were removed. The defence seems to have been wholly made with the Armstrong rifles, as none of the smoothbores, not even the 16 inch, which were in good position, appears to have been used. Thus the total number of effective guns in these three forts was eighteen, and of these, two or three could not be brought to bear.

"The supply of ammunition seems to have been very abundant, and large quantities of Palliser and smoothbore projectiles, canister, etc., were on hand after the bombardment. Small auxiliary magazines, built under the embrasures and situated beside the guns, were filled, making the supply very convenient and accessible, so that evidently, the destruction of the guns themselves caused the fort to be silenced. The great fault in the construction of the magazines and shell-rooms was the conspicuous positions they occupied which caused them to be greatly exposed, and to have the fire concentrated upon them. This defect caused the explosion in Fort Ada and the silencing of that fort. In Fort Pharos the shell room was exploded, and in the Ras-el-Tin the shell-room was almost totally destroyed. The Nordenfildt guns caused great destruction among the men, sweeping away whole gun's crews at a time, and in the Ras-el-Tin effectually prevented the dislodgment of the projectile which was placed in the 9 inch gun butt out, previously mentioned. The attacking ships, starting from a range of from 3,000 to 5,000 yards, finally closed in to 800 yards, thus giving excellent opportunity to develop the usefulness of these very effective modern additions to the armament of our vessels.

Of the English ships, the *Monarch* was not hit, probably owing to her ability to snuff her ground. The *Alexandra* received slight damage to her hull and had three guns disabled. At first the rumor was to the

effect that the guns in question had been damaged by the enemy's projectiles; subsequently it was reported by a correspondent that they burst; neither statement is correct. These guns are of the muzzle-loading type and were made at Woolwich on the Fraser system. In the A tube of one of the 10 inch 18 ton guns of the lower battery there was a transverse crack about three inches from the muzzle. In another of the same bat; tery there was a slight dislodgment of the A tube. The latter is regarded as serviceable. One 25 ton gun in the upper battery had its A tube cracked transversely on the upper side, about half way from the muzzle to the B coil. This gun was fired several times after this accident. It was proposed to drill a hole at the extremity of this crack to prevent its extension if the gun had to be fired again. There would doubtless be difficulty in tracing the extent of a crack in steel. It is said that all these guns were cracked across the A tubes about halfway from the muzzle to the trunnions, the 25-ton guns on the upper and the two 18-ton guns on the lower side. The *Alexandra* received about twenty-five shots in her hull. One shell entered at the stern, passed into the captain's cabin and there burst, shattering everything in the cabin. Another passed through the cabin and completely destroyed everything within it. Others passed through the funnel-casing, smashed up one of the quarters of a steam launch, passed through the gun-room, and did other damage. In no case did a single shot penetrate the armor of any of the ships. The *Sultan* was pierced two or three times in her unarmored parts, and the *Invincible* was penetrated three times, and the *Superb* had a plate below her foremost glacis torn away.

This number of the "Journal of the Naval Institute" also contains the paper on the Channel Improvement, Washington Navy-yard, by Civil Engineer A. G. Menocal, U. S. N., with a report of the discussion, which accompanied its presentation, at the meeting of the Washington Branch of the Institute, Dec. 21, 1882.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

H. E. B. asks: Who was the author of the poem, "The Bivouac of the Dead, two of its lines being:

"On Fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread."

Ans.—Theodore O'Hara was. Served during the Mexican war as a captain and assistant quartermaster; was disbanded in 1848; entered service again, in 1853, as a captain 2d U. S. Cavalry, and resigned in 1856.

R. H. S. asks: 1. What arm of the service is best to get a commission in by enlistment? 2. I am told that by strict attention to duty I could in a few years get a commission. Is this true? 3. If a recruit has any technical knowledge, does it assist him in enlisting, and make up for other deficiencies? 4. If a person is desirous of a military life and having a good common school education and generally competent physically and mentally, but too old to enter West Point, what course should he pursue? Ans.—1. One arm is as good as another, for it does not follow that a non-commissioned officer of a particular arm, if promoted to a 3d lieutenancy, will be appointed to that arm. 2. It is, and we are aware of several instances within the past few years. 3. He must be physically and mentally sound, and a knowledge of tactics will be of advantage after he has been enlisted. 4. In such a case, enlistment with a steadfast determination to rise by dint of good conduct and steadfast devotion to duty and to acquire a knowledge of the military profession.

PATIENT asks: Is a post surgeon justified in declining to return a man on sick report to duty when ordered to do so by the post commander? Ans.—We can scarcely imagine such a case as you present, as post commanders do not usually interfere with post surgeons in their treatment of the sick, but under certain conditions we are of opinion a post surgeon would be justified in declining to return a sick man to duty at the order of the post commander.

TACTICS asks: 1. Are not all soldiers, out of ranks and not sentinels, required to conform, day or night, to paragraphs 791 to 807, Upton's Infantry Tactics? 2. Within what distance are soldiers required to salute? 3. In deploying close column on first division, the arms being at a shoulder, by what commands and means are the arms of first division brought to carry, or is the position of carry not essential to dressing? Ans.—1. Soldiers are required to salute officers at all times, day and night, as long as they are able to recognise them. 2. There is no distance laid down in either Regulations or Tactics. You must use your judgment in this matter. 3. The first division is brought to a carry by the command carry arms. Of course all dressing should be done at carry arms.

PICK AND SHOVEL asks: Is there not a law in existence governing the amount of guard and fatigue duties a soldier should perform? Or is there not a decision from the Medical Department as to it being deemed detrimental to the health of a man, on account of insufficient rest, when he only gets every other or every two nights' sleep and works during the daytime for weeks and months in succession? Ans.—There is no such law, nor is there any general decision on the point in question. The medical officer of a post is charged with looking after its health, and if he thinks any soldier's health is being undermined by reason of too severe duty, it would be his duty to represent the facts to the commanding officer.

A CORRESPONDENT asks: 1. While executing loadings and firings, with the numbers, after firing, the command is, "Cease firing." Should the piece be loaded and brought to the carry without further command, or should the men wait for the numbers to be announced? 2. While executing the left oblique fire in double rank, the command cease firing or carry arms is given. At the command cease or carry, should the piece be brought to the vertical as at the recover, or should the men wait for the command of execution to come to the vertical? Ans.—1. The command "cease firing" is not prescribed in that part of the tactics referring to loading by the numbers, which is only for elementary instruction. The command cease firing appears under the head of "firings" where the numbers are done away with, and par. 106 tells you exactly what to do. 2. Raise the muzzle to a vertical position at the command of execution.

RHODA asks: 1. Does not the guide, in accordance with sec. 188 School Soldier, fall back, at the command ready, before firing, and not at the first command of load, as is maintained by some here? 2. Does a company commander move always by shortest lines to his position, after superintendence of movements, or does he move straight to front two yards, halt, face to left, march along front to centre, halt and face to right? Ans.—1. Guide falls back at the first command. See par. 188, Tactics. 2. In instructing his company a captain goes wherever his presence is necessary, by the shortest route.

MEMBER N. G. asks: Can I get a transfer to another city regiment if my regimental commander (colonel) and company commander (first lieutenant) object? I am in good standing with my company and the only reason that I cannot get a transfer is that the colonel does not wish to lose a man, as "every one counts." Ans.—No. See par. 13 of the Appendix to the M. R. Code.

SERGEANT: We have mislaid your letter; but, if our memory serves us right, your question was as follows: "Is a soldier going into an officer's private quarters, with his waistbelt on, required, on coming into the presence of the officer, to uncover and salute, or simply to uncover and stand to attention?" Ans.—Uncover and stand to attention. Par. 605 of the Regulations says: "Indoors a non-commissioned officer or soldier, when unarmed, uncovers

and stands at attention, but does not salute." The proper action, therefore, for a soldier, unarmed, on entering an officer's quarters, would be to uncover and stand at attention, and wait until asked his business by the officer. If we have misinterpreted your question, please advise us further.

A CORRESPONDENT asks: 1. What is the imprisonment clause in the New York State law with regard to members of the National Guard? 2. In paragraph 424, battalion drill, do the captains halt their companies twice or only once? That is, do they halt upon a rising three yards beyond the line before wheeling by fours, or first wheel about by fours, make one halt, and then dress on the line? Ans.—1. "For the purpose of collecting any fines or penalties imposed by any court-martial authorized by this act, the president of the court shall within fifteen days after the expiration of the time in which an appeal is allowed as provided in section 202 of this act, make a list of all the persons fined, describing them distinctly, and showing the sums imposed as fines or penalties on each person, and shall draw his warrant under his official signature, directed to any marshal of the court, or to the Sheriff or constable of any city or county (as the case may be), thereby commanding him to levy such fines or penalties, together with the costs, on the goods and chattels of such delinquents, and, in default of sufficient goods and chattels to satisfy the same, then to take the body of such delinquent and convey him to the common jail of such city or county, where the jailer shall keep the said delinquent closely confined, without bail or mainprize, for two days for any fine or penalty not exceeding two dollars, and two additional days for every dollar above that sum, unless the fine or penalty, together with the cost and the jailer's fees, be sooner paid; but no such imprisonment shall extend beyond the period of twenty days; provided, however, that the prisoner may be liberated at any time by order of the commanding officer of the division, upon the application of the commandant of the brigade to which he belongs. No property shall be exempt from the payment of such fines or penalties." 2. They halt before executing the about by fours.

(From the American Register, London.)

THE AMERICAN SQUADRON.

U. S. FLAGSHIP LANCASTER, GENOA, JAN. 12.

SINCE my last letter we have made another cruise in the Levant, and we are now resting here for a short time to overhaul the machinery and make some slight repairs preliminary to further service.

Proceeding from Trieste in October, we called for a few days each at Venice, Cattaro, Corfu, Patras, the Piræus, and the Island of Syra, en route to unhappy Egypt, for the third time in 1882. From Alexandria we steamed to Tripoli, then to Malta, and came to Genoa via Palermo, Naples, and Leghorn. The next port will probably be Villefranche, near Nice, where we should like very much to be now, as it is cold and exceedingly disagreeable here, with heavy, gloomy skies, snow on the hills, and furious north winds for the greater part of the time.

Our stay at Trieste was prolonged by rainy weather, which delayed the callers, but was not regretted, as it furnished opportunities for all to visit the very creditable exhibition of Austrian and Hungarian products at the "Triester Ausstellung." A few took advantage of the chance to run into the interior and visit Budapest, the Salzammergut and Vienna, at which latter place the fleet paymaster, Mr. Williams, Capt. Cochrane, of the Marine Corps, and Capt. Glentworth, of the Austrian army, had the pleasure of receiving the hospitable attentions of the United States Minister and Mrs. Taft. The tourists returned delighted with Austria and Hungary, and wondering why so few Anglo-Americans include these beautiful countries and the trip down the Danube in their continental journeys.

Venice, threadbare but always interesting, permitted us to come up the newly deepened channel, and moor within a few yards of the Giardini Pubblici, where we remained five days—days full of interest, instruction, and moisture. The rains, then bad, became worse—and during the visit of the *Quinneburg*, a little later, the gondoliere were found paddling their hideous black canoes over the Piazzetta of St. Mark's.

A short run took us from the former haunts of Titian and the Doges out of the world, so to speak, to Cattaro, Southern Dalmatia, the seaport and one of the market towns of that curious people called Montenegrins. It is upon an extraordinarily grand and beautiful inland sea, with deep and narrow passages, walled in by high and rugged mountains, bordered by strange little villages, dotted with little islands bearing only churches and convents, and terminated by a small harbor, on which is a small town full of small soldiers with "F. J." on their Ushastin forage caps.

The Austrian General Baron Jovanovitch, Governor of Dalmatia, happened to be there upon a tour of inspection from Fiume, and informed us through an aid that we were "not expected," which, to our astonishment and amusement, was found to mean that Cattaro was a kind of Korean port, closed to all men-of-war unprovided with a pass from Vienna. This information made the situation a trifle awkward at first, but, as we were neither Russians nor Turks, and did not intend a prolonged stay, it was decided to treat us as "distressed mariners," and to let us remain long enough to procure a potato or two to carry us to the next port. What a wonderful thing is diplomacy!

We accordingly remained from Friday until Monday, which enabled us to see the principal event of the week, namely, the open air Montenegrin market of Saturday morning.

At Corfu we met and exchanged courtesies with Her Majesty's ships *Superb* and *Temeraire*, which we became acquainted with in Egypt, and after a short, but pleasant stay, proceeded to astonish our good Consul at Patras, Mr. Hancock, who had never seen a United States war vessel in the port, although he had lived there five and twenty years. From this point to the Piræus requires about thirty-six hours. Small-pox was found to be epidemic there, and no communication was permitted that was not absolutely necessary. At Syra we found the corvette *Nipsio* and received our accumulated mails before sailing for Alexandria.

The *Nipsio* was sent to Smyrna to get R. P. Mirzan, the prisoner condemned by a Consular Court for the murder of a lawyer in Egypt, and she is now at Lisbon on her way home with him, and with the invalids of the squadron and men whose enlistments have expired. She should have been in New York this week, but an accident to a crosshead has delayed her a month on this side. On board are also the bodies of Fleet Surgeon B. F. Gibbs, who died of Bright's disease at Trieste, and of Midshipman George Sparhawk, of Massachusetts, who died while attached to the training ship *Portsmouth* last summer. We had hoped that their deaths would be all we should be called upon to mourn, but on Tuesday closed the career of Lieut. Samuel F. Clarkson, U. S. N., who died at the Hotel Prince de Galles at Nice. On the 20th of last month, Lieut. Clarkson received leave for two weeks to recuperate from an attack of chills and fever, supposed to have been contracted in Naples, and accompanied by his wife (née Miss Courtney Newton, of Norfolk, Va.) went to Mentone. Thence, he went to Nice, where different symptoms presented themselves and he was obliged to take to his bed. Later he became delirious, unconscious and paralyzed. He remains here, being embalmed and will be sent to the United States. Mr. Clarkson was a resident of Fishkill, Long Island, and was about thirty-seven years of age. His record as an officer is excellent; a more devoted husband never existed, and his happy disposition and strict integrity will long be remembered by his comrades.

The *Quinneburg* is here, and will be thoroughly caulked before leaving the port. When the *Lancaster* will reach Villefranche is uncertain, but possibly about the 18th or 20th instant. Rear Admiral Nicholson will be retired from active duty in March, and his successor, Rear Admiral C. H. Baldwin, is expected to arrive in Europe shortly from New York.

(From the New York Times.)

NAVAL REFORM.

THE friends of honest legislation, as well as those of the Navy, will be glad to know that the Senate committee, in reporting the Naval Appropriation bill, has stricken out nearly all the legislation tacked on to it by the House. The system of attaching legislative provisions to a money bill is a peculiarly vicious one. The time has been in England when the Commons could not secure an important measure of reform except by making it a "rider" to a money bill; but under our Government no such necessity exists, and no attempt to make an appropriation bill a vehicle for important legislation should be tolerated. The Naval bill as it passed the House might have been much worse than it was, and it was therefore hoped that the Senate would pass it without attaching fresh legislation to it or restoring the clauses stricken out of the original bill by the House. That the Senate would strike out all the legislation from it and insist upon making it purely an appropriation bill was more than any one ventured to hope. If the Senate has really taken this position and will cling to it, the country and the Navy will have reason to be thankful.

Undoubtedly, the Navy can be improved by intelligent legislation, but no such legislation can be expected while Mr. Robeson has any influence in the House. It is notorious that he bitterly dislikes nearly all the older naval officers. With few exceptions they have refused to have any acquaintance with him beyond what their official duty requires. They will not accept his hospitalities, and their opinion of him is as clearly indicated by their attitude toward him as it would be did they express themselves with the frankness with which the rest of the people of this country speak of him. Mr. Robeson's attempt to abolish the grade of commodore is universally believed to be merely an attempt to punish the men on the list of captains who have incurred the ex-Secretary's displeasure. There is no reason for abolishing the grade in question, unless the number of rear admirals is to be increased. Six rear admirals are too few to command our squadrons, and if we are to have no other flag officers, captains will have to be selected and detailed for the purpose, although it is well understood that there is no method of demoralizing the Navy which is so efficient as that of promotion by selection in time of peace. The service could only be injured by abolishing the grade of commodore without increasing the number of rear admirals, but as such abolition would stop the promotion of all the captains now on the list for at least three years, it would admirably serve Mr. Robeson's purpose of "getting square" with the naval officers. The same malign purpose was evident in his plan for retiring officers at a very early age and for making promotions to the grade of rear admiral by selection. Let us hope that the action of the Senate will finally frustrate this sort of revengeful legislation.

In most of the measures proposed in Congress for the alleged improvement of the Navy it seems to be the opinion of the proposers that naval officers have no rights that Congressmen should respect. An officer may have spent the best years of his life in the service and rendered during the civil war services of incalculable value, but there are Congressmen who seem to see no reason why he should not be virtually turned out of the service at any time for no other reason than to save the Treasury the pittance of his pay.

DEEP SEA SOUNDINGS.

The Coast and Geodetic Survey steamer *Blake* arrived at the Brooklyn Navy Yard Feb. 15, after an absence of 67 days. The *Blake* left New York Dec. 9 and since then has been engaged in running a line of deep sea soundings and serial temperatures from Bermuda to the Bahamas, and a number of lines normal to the latter islands. She comes back with the distinction of having made the deepest sounding ever made in the Atlantic Ocean. On the 19th of January, in latitude 19 deg. 41 min. north, longitude 66 deg. 24 min. west, about 165 miles north-west from St. Thomas, the lead did not touch bottom until 4,661 fathoms had been paid out. The reel employed in sounding was the Navy regulation steel reel that had been used in sounding to depths of 3,000 fathoms without injury. In reeling from the 4,500 fathom sounding the accumulated strain was sufficient to crack the periphery of the reel in the line of spokes. The greatest depth heretofore found in the Atlantic has been 3,362 fathoms.

The principal object of the cruise was to complete the soundings necessary for a chart of the bottom of the ocean. That part lying to the northward of the Bahamas, and between Bermuda and the Bahamas, has not, up to this time, been satisfactorily sounded. At Bermuda the first line of soundings began. From there, Dec. 18, the *Blake* left for Nassau. There are two channels from Nassau, one called the Northeast Providence Channel, opening into the Atlantic to the northward and eastward, and another called the Northwest Channel, which goes to the southward of the Great Bahama Islands. Soundings were made in the Northeast Providence Channel, and 20 or 25 miles from the coast got 2,300 fathoms. There is an important fact shown by the soundings here. All the way along the coast to the northeast of the Bahamas the soundings increase very abruptly and very rapidly. There is no gradual deepening, as in other places. Starting at ten fathoms, for instance, the next sounding made near by might be 100, then 200, 500 and perhaps 1,000 next, up to 2,300 or 2,500. Between the southern end of the Great Abaco Island and Cape Samana, at the northwestern point of St. Domingo Island were ran seven lines of soundings.

The deepest sounding made during the trip—and the deepest ever made in the Atlantic Ocean—was 75 miles north of San Juan, Porto Rico. It was about 80 miles southwest of the place where H. B. M. S. *Challenger* made her deepest sounding. It was inside a basin. The temperature of the water at this great depth was 38 degrees. It is a curious fact in connection with such basins as this that the water at the bottom of them is of exactly the same temperature as that which runs over the top of the ridge several hundred fathoms above. The specimen of the bottom which was secured at this sounding showed a soft, brown ooze, with evidences of fauna.

During the cruise several short visits were made to Nassau, where the officers were very cordially and heartily entertained by the Governor and people of Nassau, and also by their own countrymen residing there. The genial proprietor of the Royal Victoria Hotel, Mr. Marton, will also long be remembered for his hospitality and his endeavors to make their stay pleasant.

The officers of the *Blake* are: Lieutenant Commander

Willard H. Brownson, commanding; Lieutenant Freeman H. Crosby, Executive officer; Master, Henry Morrell; Ensigns, John T. Newton, H. C. Wakenshaw and Harry E. Kuapp; Midshipman, Miles C. Gorgas; Passed Assistant Engineer, George H. Kearny; Passed Assistant Surgeon, H. G. Beyer; Recorder, N. G. Henry.

THE VERMONT TROOPS IN THE WAR.

FROM an address delivered before the Reunion Society of Vermont officers at Montpelier, Vt., last November, by Lieutenant Geo. Grenville Benedict, we make a few striking extracts:

As to numbers furnished for the war, it is, I think, not putting it too strong to say that Vermont sent a greater proportion of her able bodied men into the service than any other State. Governor Curtin of Pennsylvania, at the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, in 1876, said proudly of his State: "She furnished [to the war] one in seventeen of her population—a ratio larger than that of the conscription of 1814, in France." Pennsylvania was a great, wealthy and populous State, full of able bodied workmen, and having an immense pecuniary stake in the preservation of the Union. If our little community, far from the theatre of war and from danger of invasion, did as well as the Keystone State of the Republic, she did well. But, computed on the general basis of all such comparisons, the credits on the books of the Provost Marshal General of the United States, Vermont furnished for the war not one in seventeen, but one in ten of her population. One or two other States, perhaps, furnished as large a proportion; but no other had so small a proportion of its citizens liable to and fit for military duty—with the possible exception of Massachusetts, whose large excess of female population must of course be taken into the account. No other State, however—not Massachusetts or Maine or New Hampshire—had been so depleted of young, able and enterprising men, the very class which supplied the Volunteers, as was Vermont. The census of 1880 shows that there are more native Vermonters domiciled in other States than there are now residing within our borders; and if that was not the case in 1860, the fact could not have come much short of it. Of course every State had many sons who fought in the ranks of the regiments of other States; but not one, I venture to say, had so many as Vermont. A count of the native Vermonters in the 2d Minnesota regiment, made on Capitol Hill, Washington, in July, 1861, showed that 170, or one-fifth of the aggregate of the regiment, were born in Vermont; yet there were several Western States in which native Vermonters were more plenty than in Minnesota. If the full statistics could be obtained they would probably show that as many men born in Vermont were included in the rolls of other States, as in our own; while the muster rolls of our Vermont regiments show a very small sprinkling of men of other nativities.

The Vermont troops cost the Government less than the average of the Army and probably less than those of any other State. This was because Vermont early adopted the method of strengthening her regiments in the field by additions of fresh recruits, instead of organizing additional regiments, and kept it up more largely, I think, than any other State. The average final aggregate of the Vermont regiments was upwards of 1,800. The similar aggregate of the Massachusetts and New Jersey regiments was about 1,500; of the Iowa regiments 1,400; of the Ohio regiments 1,300. The proportion of commissioned officers to the rank and file in the Vermont regiments was thus less than the average; and as the pay of the lowest commissioned officer was equal to the pay of eight privates, the average cost of our regiments to the Government was proportionately reduced.

A report of the Provost Marshal General made after the close of the war, gives a table of the deaths in action, or from wounds received in action, of the troops of the various States. Entire accuracy is not claimed for this table; but the causes of error were common to the States, and there is no reason to doubt that the percentages afford an approximately accurate basis of comparison. The significance of such a table as indicating the fighting character of the troops will not be questioned by any soldier. The greatest losses will, as a general rule, be found among the troops which are oftenest put in places of danger, the troops that fight when others fly, and that do not know when they are beaten. In this table the States of Kansas and Vermont largely exceed all others in the proportion of soldiers killed and mortally wounded. This ratio in the Kansas troops exceeds the average of the troops of the Union by 25.91 in each thousand. The ratio of Vermont exceeds the average by 23.12 in each thousand. Massachusetts and New Hampshire come next; but each lost ten men less than Vermont in every thousand. All other States had still lower proportions. Vermonters are content to share the honor of giving life and blood most freely to the Union, with Kansas, a State whose regiments were full of sons of Vermont.

It is not surprising that a part so truly brilliant as that of our Green Mountain State should sometimes have been exaggerated. We may not assert, though it has often been asserted, that no Vermont flag ever fell into the hands of the enemy. The State flag of the 9th Vermont, supposed to have been destroyed at Harper's Ferry, but found at Richmond among the captured Union colors and now preserved in this State House, disproves the statement. But it was not yielded to hostile hands in battle, and for its surrender, with the other colors of the garrison of Harper's Ferry, no Vermont soldier was in the least responsible. We cannot claim, as has been claimed, that Vermont had fewer deserters than any other State. At least the tables of the Provost Marshal General do not support that claim, though they do show that Vermont was less disgraced by desertions than any other New England State, and that she had a much smaller ratio of deserters than the general ratio of the Army. It may not be well to claim, as has been claimed, that Vermont paid her soldiers better than any other State. As to regular State pay, doubtless this is true; but other States paid largely in aid to families of soldiers and enormously in bounties; and which paid most is not yet determined.

THE San Francisco *R. P. O.* tells of a new departure in cartridges recently exhibited at the armory of the 7th regiment N. G. C.: "In appearance the cartridge looks like a Chinese fire cracker with the red paper taken off. Its materials and mode of preparation are secrets, but it looks like paper pulp soaked in some explosive material, and pressed into a hard roll. The ball is attached to the end of the roll, and the whole thing leaves the gun together on the 'sky rocket principle.' It can, the inventor says, be adapted to any gun, and will revolutionize the ordnance departments of the world. The inventor fired one of the ball cartridges into a spruce log 8 inches thick. The ball passed entirely through the log and a two-inch plank behind it, and flattened against a stone wall. After firing twelve rounds out of the same gun there was no apparent heat and no fouling. A more scientific and satisfactory test will be made at the State Arsenal, probably in a few days, before Government and State experts."

THE STATE TROOPS.

TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—Colonel Josiah Porter.—On Friday evening, February 8, when we entered the armory of this regiment, the first thing we noticed was that the sergeant of the guard was going around with unfixed bayonet, and that when talking to a sentry the latter did not assume the position of arms port. Probably the sentry did not know any better, but after the experience of last summer's camp the sergeant's ignorance well deserved the reprimand administered to him by Adjutant Harding. We recommend to Adjutant Harding to make this subject of guard duty a special feature of his theoretical programme in the non-commissioned officers' school. A thorough knowledge of the same is of much more importance than that of mere tactical movements, and its lack is the rock upon which the National Guardsman generally goes to pieces. While talking of the school, however, it is due to say that it is an excellent institution, and the results of its teachings are plainly visible in the bearing of the guides and file-closers on drill.

After re-call from company drill, which had taken place for half an hour before battalion drill, had been sounded, the companies were equalized, and after formation of line in smooth, rapid manner, Lieut. Charlton, of Co. B, who acted as adjutant, reported to Colonel Porter a battalion of 4 commands, of 16 solid files. The battalion is evidently improving, yet the inequality of instruction in the non-commissioned officers is still very apparent, and its whole execution lacks vivacity. Guides and file closers, however, who in the beginning of the season lacked knowledge as to what motions of the manual to execute, are picking up and beginning to be well posted. In four the command marched well, but the turning points seemed to be hurried over; the rear commands are always falling behind, and the step becomes deranged. This is particularly the case in the beginning of drills.

The best feature of the evening were some very handsome marches in double time, which could hardly be improved upon, the men showing particularly great uniformity in resuming the quick time. The battalion also marched well in company front, and the wheels were solid, with unbroken alignments, but companies lost distances in changing direction. Markers appeared well instructed and very prompt in taking their positions, and file closers attentive to their duties, the words, "Close up there," being frequently heard—a rare occurrence in an armory. The drill, which included several general alignments, battalion front marches, formations of divisions, opening and closing of ranks, formation of column to the rear, marches in double column of fours, and formation of line to the front was towards the end conducted in a lively manner, and as the battalion warmed up the men became on their mettle and the movements were promptly and handsomely executed. The column formations to the rear, although not handsome, were correctly performed with one exception, and this not through the fault of the company commander, but through that of the company (3d) itself, which did not obey the command to wheel to the left. An about by fours in battalion front was spoiled through a neglect of the Colonel, who failed to give the command guides post, by mistake, and several companies on this account stood fast, while others went about. The Major, one time, in opening ranks, came to the front before the command "front." Occasionally there would be crowding in battalion front, and the command, "mark time," had to be resorted to to get proper touch of elbows.

The drill, although in many details imperfect, was satisfactory in the main point. It showed improvement. While Lieut. Charlton performed the duties of adjutant, Lieut. Harding, the regular adjutant, had general supervision of the drill under the Colonel, and for this purpose went wherever correction was necessary.

The subject of uniformity in the matter of recruiting and enlisting men in the several companies has been referred to, and is under consideration by the committee on state of the regiment. The regimental recruits, to the number of about forty, will be transferred from the class to their companies next Friday after the final drill, and a new class will be started on Monday next.

TWENTY-THIRD NEW YORK.—Col. Rodney C. Ward.—Col. Ward, in G. O. No. 1, has published a copy of Gen. P. H. Briggs' report of his inspection of the 23d, on Jan. 27, in the State uniform, which comments very favorably on the appearance of the regiment on the occasion. The report coincides as follows:

"Officers and members of other organizations present, were more or less impressed in his favor, and I am of the opinion that the time is not far distant when the change will be accepted and looked upon as a necessity by every command in the service. Col. Ward and his officers are entitled to great credit for their successful efforts in thus overcoming the prejudice of old militia authorities, and in thus strengthening the hands of the military authorities of the State. In adopting the State uniform this command has laid aside a dress (gray service and dress uniform), that has been distinctive of the regiment since its organization, property amounting in value to about \$50,000. Officers and men are enthusiastic in their love of the service, and I confidently predict that the change will result in the steady increase of strength and efficiency of this first class organization. The uniform as worn, is of cloth of standard color and quality, well made, neat fitting, and in accordance with the prescribed bill of dress, except in the addition of an extra button on the breast of the coat, which adds materially to its appearance."

The order also publishes the report of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of Feb. 3, on the 23d regiment, in full.

TWELFTH NEW YORK.—Col. F. V. R. Cruger.—The right wing of this regiment, Cos. F, I, K and A, the battalion being formed in the order named, with twelve files front, were exercised in battalion movements, by Col. Cruger, on Wednesday, Feb. 14, the drill being an exceedingly good one. We do not mean that the execution of the several movements was without flaw or break, but when this drill is compared with the last one of the same wing, our expression of exceedingly good will be well understood. There were no late men, and the assembly, 1st sergeants' call and formation, were prompt on time. The formation might have been better, its effectiveness being marred by the slowness of the third company. This company did not move from its original position until the color company was dressed. At the "march" after adjutant's call, the several companies at once take up the step and proceed to their designated positions in line. After a short manual the column of fours march was taken up, the instructor frequently halting the column to call attention to and correct the faulty distances. The step was wobbling, apparently caused by the slowing up of the right guide of the first company at the changes of direction. This sergeant is a well known rifle shot and should be a good judge of distance, and if he will practice

the cadence step with repeated changes of direction, he will soon break himself of the habit of shuffling at the wheels. The close column movements and deployments were then taken up, the battalion working smoothly, and guides, as a rule, prompt and efficient. On this subject of guides it might be well to call the attention of the right guide of the color company to the fact that it is not always necessary for him to mark the alignments. The left guide of the first company had something to do, and though he endeavored to perform it correctly, he was invariably out off by the right guide of the second company. We would also call the attention of this sergeant to the fact that at "double time" the piece should be carried either at the right shoulder or trail, and that the time for changing his piece, to inversion, is when he takes position as a guide, and not while moving rapidly from his company to the new line of battle. From the column of fours line was formed by two movements to the right and left, in excellent shape, the officers showing that they had indeed pored over the tactics since our last criticism. After "on the left close column of divisions" had been executed wheeling distance was taken and the divisions broken into companies. On the first trial the captain of the left company was too quick in giving his commands, the result being that the second division became slightly mixed. Divisions were reformed in good shape and the movements repeated so that all were satisfied.

A short rest was then taken, when Col. Cruger, adhering to his previous announcement, turned over the battalion to Capt. Healy of Co. F. Ranks were opened and the manual executed in very fair shape, column of fours marches were resumed, with close column ployments and deployments, executed equally as well as the previous movements of the drill. Double column was then formed and "change direction by the left flank" ordered. This maneuver was the only one of the evening incorrectly performed. The adjutant who posted the markers, placed them opposite the 2d instead of the 5th file, and when the 1st division took up the "left forward fours, left," they crowded to the left instead of the right of the markers, and the captain of the 1st division wheeled his men to the left instead of the right, in order to face the markers. The commander of the 2d division hesitated as to which flank he should wheel to, and finally decided to follow his leader. The column was now inverted, but the instructor set matters straight by wheeling the fours about, and the column was deployed, by two movements, in the very best of shape. After a march in column of companies, line was formed and the colonel resumed command. The manual was again executed and the battalion was dismissed after two hours of a very satisfactory drill. The left wing companies, B, E, G and H, were drilled on Friday, 16th.

Capt. William C. Reddy, Co. H, 12th regiment, has, after sixteen years consecutive duty as private, sergeant and company commander, tendered the resignation of his office, to the regret of his company, Col. Cruger and his brother officers. Capt. Reddy's record in the National Guard is a good one, and he retires with the best wishes of his brother officers.

The officers of the 12th regiment have adopted the United States Army uniform as their full dress. It is, however, proposed to ornament the collar of the coat so that the 12th's officers will be readily distinguished from those of the regular service.

CALIFORNIA.—The San Francisco report pitches into the militia who took part in the funeral ceremonies of the late Surgeon J. C. Keeney, U. S. A., saying: "But the militia looked awful. Their uniforms were ill-fitting and unclean; the men were not 'set-up,' the belts were awry, there were various notions about the proper 'reverse arms,' and all were abroad in the simplest movements. A skeleton company of the 2d Regiment—Company H—made a holy show of itself. As it marched down the South side of Post street it met the funeral cortege. The officer in command was quite ignorant of what to do. He halted his company and there it stood in column of fours and let the cortege pass—Captain and men looking at it over their left shoulders. Finally Colonel Smedberg came along on the sidewalk and angrily signalled to the officer to front his men, upon which the 1st sergeant suggested the order 'Fours 1st, March,' and the movement was executed with indifferent success."

Upon his own application Col. Wm. B. Curtis, A. A. G., is placed upon the retired list.

J. J. Tobin, of San Francisco, is appointed A. A. Gen. Governor Stoneman has appointed the following staff: Wm. Hammond Hall, of Sacramento, chief engineer; John F. Godfrey, of Los Angeles, judge advocate general; G. G. Tyrrell, of Sacramento, surgeon general; A. Andrews, of San Francisco, paymaster general; Charles Sontag, of San Francisco, Inspector General of Rifle Practice; Cabel H. Maddox, of San Jose; George H. Kimball, of San Francisco; J. Merwin Donahue, of San Francisco; Harry W. Carroll, of Sacramento; Cornelius McLean, of Oakland; Guy Shirley, of Stockton; H. R. Willard, Jr., of San Francisco, and Delmar E. Ashby, of Sacramento, aides-de-camp.

The resignation of Major General W. H. Barnes, commanding the National Guard, has been accepted, and Lieut. Col. Walter Turnbull, 1st Infantry, has been appointed major general.

We also publish the following commissions, issued during January, 1888:

George B. Conby, adjutant general, Jan. 11.
George M. Danahue, 1st lieutenant, June 8.
Dwight M. Anjler, 2d lieutenant, Co. B, San Diego City Guard, June 8.

2d Artillery.
James A. Laven, 1st lieutenant, Jan. 5.
John Brier, captain, Nov. 27.
Adolph Huber, 1st lieutenant, Nov. 27.
Henry J. Mangels, 2d lieutenant, Co. C, Nov. 27, 1882.

5th Infantry Battalion.
Wm. Verbeck, 1st lieutenant and Q. M., Jan. 15.
Albert K. Whitton, 2d lieutenant, Co. B, Dec. 13.
Albert Eikus, 1st lieutenant and quartermaster 1st Artillery, Jan. 25.

NEW YORK.—The 29th and 34th separate companies, of Oswego, had battalion drill on Wednesday evening, Feb. 14. Guard-mounting and instruction of sentinels formed a part of the programme. The 29th company will visit Syracuse on Washington's birthday (Feb. 22) as guests of the 14th separate company. A banquet will take place at the armory, and a grand ball will wind up the day.

The 8th Regiment are making manual preparations to assure the success of their annual ball on Feb. 22, at Irving Hall.

We have received invitations to a concert and tennis games in the 23d Regiment Armory on Saturday evening, Feb. 17. These concerts are, if possible, still more popular than in previous seasons, and are always well attended.

The 13th Regiment is busily preparing for its turnout on Washington's birthday.

Col. D. E. Austin, of the 13th, who is always on the alert for any improvements in his command, has adopted the suggestion of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and will soon organize a Signal Corps under charge of Major M. B. Farr, of General Brownell's staff, who has made the subject a study and is a competent instructor.

Contributions of goods for the 71st Regiment Fair are flowing into the Armory at Broadway and Thirty-fifth street, every evening from leading business firms and other friends of the regiment. The fair will open March 23.

Surgeon General Joseph D. Bryant continues to give his valuable assistance as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the 71st Regiment Fair, notwithstanding his promotion to the Staff of Governor Cleveland.

Col. Richard Vose, of the 71st regiment, has just recovered from a severe dislocation of the shoulder, received by slipping on the ice in front of his residence in East Sixty-fourth street, a few days ago.

The 71st Regiment Armory bill is before the Legislature, and a petition, signed by a large number of prominent citizens, requesting its passage, has been presented to the Legislature.

The cadet corps of the 13th regiment, divided into two companies, took part in some of the evolutions at the Fitchburg Lee review. They were without arms, their rifles having not yet been received, but their movements were highly creditable and elicited general applause.

Gen. Charles F. Robbins, the head of the department of rifle practice of New York, has issued a circular announcing the appointment of Col. John Bodine as his assistant. The office of the department is established at No. 2 Counties Slip, where all official communications should be addressed.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee and his staff left for home on the midnight train on Saturday, Feb. 10.

The non-commissioned officers of the 13th promise to give an excellent drill on the occasion of their reception on the 21st. They have been drilled by Maj. Tyson.

A corps of 100 veterans of the late war, none of whom is to be less than six feet high, is intended to be organized in Kings County. They intend also to adopt that abominable, the bearskin hat, as their head dress.

Sergeant W. F. Mills, Co. B, has been appointed commissary sergeant, and Sergeant Arthur A. Sanchez, Co. G, general guide, 23d regiment.

John W. Browning, Esq., attorney at law, and a State Senator from New York City, has been appointed Inspector of Rifle Practice of the 23d regiment.

Lieutenants elect W. H. Corley and Fredk. W. Seybell, Co. D, and Wm. E. Proce and De Witt V. Weed, Co. A, 23d regiment, have passed examinations before the Brigade Board.

General R. H. Briggs inspected the two Fougaespele companies at their armory on Thursday, Feb. 15, for the purpose of condemning their present and obtaining the State service uniform, for which they have made requisition.

The *Philomathean Review* has a sketch of Colonel Rodney C. Ward, of the 23d New York, with an engraving showing the bust of the Colonel in uniform. The Colonel was born in Michigan in 1837, came to Brooklyn in 1840, originally entered the National Guard in 1857 in Co. B, 7th regiment, then commanded by Captain (now General) Alexander Shaler.

The programme for the Third Concert of the 7th Regiment Band, on Saturday evening, February 17, is an excellent one, and the arrangements made for the occasion are most elaborate. Capt. Jas. L. Price is at the head of the committee.

The 19th Separate Company, 24 files front, and the 15th Separate Company, 19 files, were drilled in the school of the company at the armory on Friday evening, February 18. Both commands show a marked improvement. The appointment of Col. H. F. Clark as I. B. P. on the brigade staff is a splendid one, and is received with great satisfaction.

The late 21st Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., has lost one of its most valuable and efficient officers in the death of Lieut. P. C. Ward, which occurred on February 3. He was considered a crack shot, winning several trophies, among them the Wolcott diamond badge, which was in his possession twice. The officers of the 15th and 19th Separate Companies, and all the officers of the late 21st Regiment, under command of Col. A. F. Lindley, attended in a body at the funeral, on Sunday, February 10. The remains were escorted to St. Mary's R. C. Church by the O. H. Booth Hose Co., where the solemn rites for the dead were read by the Rev. Fr. Oredon.

General W. H. Brownell will review the 47th Regiment on Feb. 27. Major M. B. Farr will present the marksmen's badge. Drum Major Edward McKelvey, 13th Regiment, writes as follows: "In the notice of the review, etc., tendered to General Lee by the 13th Regiment, you make the statement that the drum major attempted to salute the reviewing officer as he reached the right of the line after the inspection thereof. Permit me to inform you that you are in error, as what you termed an attempt to salute was, in fact, a signal by which the band was to cease playing. In an experience of ten years of the duty of the position I hold, I have never committed such an error as the one which you charge me with. By publishing this explanation in your next issue, you will do me an act of justice, and confer a great favor."

We have received handsome invitations to the review and reception of the non-commissioned officers of the 13th Regiment, Wednesday evening, Feb. 21.

At the election held on Wednesday evening, by Company G's Veteran Corps, of the 71st Regiment, for officers to serve during the present year, the result was as follows: Captain, Frederick G. Gedney; 1st Lieutenant, D. W. C. Ward; 2d Lieutenant, Eugene H. Conklin; 1st Sergeant, Russell T. Coe; 2d Sergeant, Joseph J. Little; 3d Sergeant, John M. Hagedorn; 4th Sergeant, Henry S. Spruill; 5th Sergeant, William H. Racer; 1st Corporal, Eugene S. Hanson; 2d Corporal, George E. Trembley; 3d Corporal, Albert A. Drake; 4th Corporal, Alfred S. Jaffe. The veteran and active members of the 71st Regiment are showing great activity and earnestness in their efforts to make a social and financial success of the fair in aid of the New Armory and Regimental Fund, that will open on Easter Monday, (March 26). The ladies committee attached to the N. C. staff, Mrs. Thomas S. Inghard, Mrs. Henriques, Mrs. Kohner, Misses Ida and Kate Woodman, Miss E. Knapp, the Misses Hart, Mrs. Albert and others, have received many contributions of handsome goods for the benefit of the fair.

Brig. Gen. Wm. G. Ward, 1st brigade, will review the 9th regiment, at the Madison Square Garden, on Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22.

NORTH NEW YORK.—Col. W. Seward, Jr.—This command, at a battalion drill by the whole regiment, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 13, formed with nine commands of twelve full files, besides the details for guard. The result of the repeated practice had during the season shows itself here as well as elsewhere, and the evolutions were of a much more satisfactory character than in the beginning of the season. The attendance in companies varies, there being on this occasion two which turned out, one with four and the other with six files, and this caused the cutting off of one company. The companies which turn out in respectable numbers are not exactly satisfied when they have to furnish details to bolster up these sluggish companies, men naturally objecting to be put to drill with other commands than their own. Formation was satisfactory on first trial, and the command being turned over in good style, the manual was executed in a comparatively superior manner.

On the conclusion of this, the command centre forward fours left and right was given, and fairly executed, followed by formation of line by two movements, during which officers and guides showed themselves tolerably well posted. March in column of fours and company front followed, interspersed with wheels into line, closing in mass, etc., and these movements, all very simple ones, passed off tolerably well. The marching in company from the wheeled position and the bearing of the men were very creditable. The companies were then dismissed for dress parade, at which Lieut. Col. Montgomery took command. The formation passed off smoothly and promptly, but the noise of the drums was deafening, preventing the commands being heard, and consequently several of the commands were not obeyed as promptly as was desirable. We think on occasions for work like this the beating of drums, except for adjutant's call, assembly, etc., and for sounding the troop, might be dispensed with with advantage to all concerned.

The parade itself was very good, and if the manual is looked after somewhat more with a view to securing more uniformity and life, the command will do very well in this respect at Madison Square Garden. The steadiness of the men has improved a good deal, and we did not notice that any of them left the hall while in ranks. Review was next in order, Col. Seward being the reviewing officer, and this, in regard to formation of men while

standing as well as during the passage, cannot be called other than a very fair performance.

Guard mounting closed the exercises of the evening. The adjutant, who in every respect is a very soldierly, painstaking officer, has devoted considerable study to this subject, and understands it well. The mistakes which were made by the other participants in this ceremony were quickly detected and corrected, and the details, taken as a whole, managed to get through very creditably.

If the regiment keeps up its present rate of improvement, it will soon take a higher place among the city regiments.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Convention of the State Guard have presented a memorial to the North Carolina Legislature calling attention to the insufficiency of the present Militia laws of the State, and requesting the following amendments of the same:

"1. To provide for annual encampments, by regiments or other wise as the Governor may direct, for a period of six days. 2. To give each company that complies fully with all the requirements of the law, \$150 a year, for the payment of armory rent and other necessary expenses: the companies entitled to this grant to be restricted in number to 35. 3. To provide by law some summary mode of enforcing fines and penalties against delinquents. 4. To attach to the office of the Adjutant-General a reasonable compensation. These amendments were respectfully and earnestly commended to the attention of your honorable bodies as of vital importance to the furtherance of the State and the safety and worthy the serious consideration of those who have in keeping the future safety and welfare of our State."

NEW YORK.—Col. Geo. D. Scott.—So far as the proficiency and promptness of the officers in obeying commands and executing battalion movements are concerned, this regiment is improving, and it would now be well to make some efforts in the direction of securing better attendance at these drills. Company fronts of eight files, with blanks in the rear ranks, are insufficient for proper illustration and execution of manœuvres, which under such circumstances, even if individuals execute them with ever so much precision, will always look ragged.

The drills, on account of an indisposition of Col. Scott, have lately been conducted by Lieut. Col. Schilling, and that by the right wing on Friday evening, February 9, was remarkably clear of blunders, and might be called a good drill but for the slovenly execution of the manual and all exercises which depend upon instruction imparted at company drills.

The left wing drill on Tuesday evening, February 13, though not as good as the one before mentioned, was certainly better than that reported in the Journal of two weeks ago, officers showing that they have paid some attention to the tactics in the interval. They were, however, still deficient in giving the cautionary commands after receiving the commands from the instructor, who looked sharply after them in this matter, and to this defect several faulty manœuvres must be attributed.

After the formation, which was prompt and in good shape, the command marched in column of fours, and then broke into column of companies, marching by the flank, re-formed column of fours by the command "Companies column right," and then formed on right into line. Movements fair and guides prompt. Having repeated these movements, formed line on the left, and broken again into column of fours line was formed to the front, correctly on principle, but looking ragged on account of the broken and incomplete sets of fours which formed the left half of each company. The next was formation of line to the front from column of companies, and here several of the company commanders seemed to fail to give the command "Right half turn," and the movement was repeated after explanation and executed properly. In a formation of line from column of fours by two movements, the captain of the second company wheeled his fours to the wrong flank, which forced his command to the rear, which also necessitated several repetitions. The commander of the third company, a lieutenant, apparently had not the slightest idea as to the meaning of "Left into line, wheel, rear companies on left into line," and the movement having thereby become a failure, it had to be explained and repeated several times before it was executed in anything like shape. Playments into close column of divisions on and to the right and left, passed off fairly well, but no deployments were made, and the column was each time formed by breaking the commands into column of fours to the front. In one of the playments the captain of the first company broke to the left too soon and spoiled the formation. Markers in some instances were rather slow.

We certainly thought that the captain of the first company was better posted than to give the command "Guide right, left wheel."

MASSACHUSETTS.

The views expressed by Adjutant General A. Hun Berry in his annual report for 1887, in regard to the discipline, organization, etc., of the Massachusetts Militia, seem to be diametrically opposed to those later attributed to Gov. Butler in reference to the introduction of "Army discipline," etc. The report gives ample evidence that General Berry has left the old rut, and adopted the idea continuously advocated by the JOURNAL, that State troops should consist of limited, but compact bodies, well-disciplined, instructed, equipped and officered, and ready to go on active service at a moment's notice, and that the maintenance of large undisciplined and cumbersome fust and feather organizations, of no military value, is a waste and a thing of the past.

General Berry in opening, says: "I regret to say that there is not the interest taken in the subject of military duty, by the people of the Commonwealth, that the importance of the subject warrants. The old adage, 'In time of peace prepare for war,' seems to have passed entirely out of the minds of the people; or it may be that all have joined that class of persons who believe that there will never be another war in this country, and that all the money spent for the training of citizens in soldierly ways is utterly wasted. It is hardly possible that we have reached the millennial period; and if we have not, it certainly is our duty to provide for emergencies. The standing army of the country is small; too small to be of much service in case of a war; and reliance must be placed on State organizations, the Militia. That this reliance may not prove a broken reed, there must be an organized, drilled and disciplined body. The laws of the United States provide for this, but they apply to the whole of the enrolled Militia, a measure that has proved to be impracticable from the first, and which has never been successfully carried out."

"The attempts to discipline a large force do not appear to have been any more successful in this State than in the country at large."

In support of his idea of the advantage of a small, well-disciplined body of troops he cites from a report of Gov. Fernald, who, as far back as 1877, said:

"My scheme proceeds upon the idea of a province piquet guard from the whole militia, of about 6,000 effective men, well armed and disciplined, and ready to turn out upon all occasions. Which, in my opinion, is better than the whole 41,000 that will never turn out to any one good purpose."

He then gives a brief sketch of the development of the militia, in which the organization of "minute men" forms the next attempt at the formation of a disciplined body, but states that both the War of 1812 and that with Mexico demonstrated the inefficiency of the State troops as then organized. After the Mexican War State camps were introduced, and to them was due the comparative readiness of the troops to take the field in 1861. He then says that "the volunteer militia of the Commonwealth is today in a far better condition than it was in 1861, that it is constantly improving, and needs only encouragement from the citizens to keep up the high standard it has already attained."

The present division of the Massachusetts forces into enrolled and active militia dates from 1840, the former (comprising all able-bodied citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 years) numbering last year 249,770, while the "aggregate authorized force of active or volunteer militia has not been changed since the last report, and is 354 officers and 4,436 enlisted men; of this number, 315 officers and 3,798 men are in service at the present time. At the spring drills there were in service 317 officers and 3,816 men, of whom 75 per cent. performed duty."

"At the time of the annual encampment there were 319 officers and 3,887 men in service, 75 per cent. of whom were present in camp."

"The cause of absence of the greater number is from business;

employers still objecting to their employees turning out for military duty."

"How this can best be met I am unable to say; it is an evil which should not exist, and the problem of how to overcome it is not easily solved."

"After the bitter experience of the years from 1861 to 1865 it seems hardly possible that it should be necessary to complain of the indifference of the people to this important branch of the Government; but the small percentage of attendance at camp and other duty required by law, shows that something must be done to overcome the apathy, selfishness, or whatever other name it may be called, of those having members of the volunteer militia in their employ."

"National and State laws provide for an organized militia; it is a part of the Government of the country; its value as an aid to the civil power depends wholly on its support by the citizens; heavy support means increased discipline; a lack of it means weakness, in numbers, in personnel, in discipline, and consequently in efficiency."

"One of the principal events of the past year was the introduction of heavy artillery into the militia, and the experiments were successful. They were conducted by the 1st regiment, which was designated to drill with heavy artillery, and the progress made therein seems to have been reasonable. Referring to this subject, the report states:

"Look to see greater progress next year, for to the plan of schools of instruction for officers, adopted by the Colonel of the regiment, much of the success achieved can be ascribed; a plan which has always proved beneficial whenever followed. One of the greatest difficulties to be overcome is the inability of officers to impart instruction. This seems to be a faculty that cannot be easily determined by examination. An officer may be able to recite and criticize tactical questions, but the results of his teachings will often fall far short of what is expected. He falls interested his company in their duties; he neglects important points, and his appearance upon parade or inspection shows in a forcible manner that his success as an officer is limited, and that a change is desirable. In many cases there is a failure on the part of the officer to appreciate the importance of his position and the duties he has undertaken; and notwithstanding that in an inferior position he has met with success, he seems, upon promotion, utterly incapable of understanding what is expected of him. Much of this can be remedied by the schools of instruction mentioned above."

"A number of the commanding officers have expressed a desire to have the standard of examination raised. This matter is within the control of the board of examiners, who are alive to the needs of the militia, and competent to administer to them."

"It has also been suggested that doubtful officers should be ordered to leave the board for examination, and if found incompetent, or lacking in ability to perform their duties, to be discharged. This power was conferred in the law of 1873, which established the board of examiners, and was necessary in order that incompetent officers then in service might be examined, and their places filled by better ones. It would, I think, be beneficial to have this power restored."

A summary of the duties performed by the troops is then given, the most important among which were the review of the whole militia by the President, the spring drills, and the encampment. The appearance of the troops at the first mentioned is very favorably commented upon, and of the spring drills it is said that "they were fairly attended, and an earnest desire on the part of commanding officers was shown by their endeavors to use the day to the best advantage. Many of them were at the head of their battalions for the first time, and while a few of them disappointed their friends in some particulars, in others they displayed an earnestness of purpose that promises well for the future. The neglect of duty and breach of discipline in the 8th regiment was noticed at the time, but the prompt action of the Colonel in the matter, rendered any further notice of it by superior headquarters unnecessary. Payment for the day's duty was stopped from those men who were absent from the drill in the afternoon; charges were preferred against them, and they were expelled from the militia by sentence of the Court martial before which they were ordered."

Speaking of the satisfactory performance of camp duty, the Adjutant-General refers particularly to the 9th regiment, saying: "I do this with a great deal of pleasure, as it was necessary for me to speak in a different way in my last report; and I rejoice, with other friends of the regiment, in its prosperity. Its energetic Colonel is fully alive to its needs, and heartily support by his officers will still further enhance its reputation."

But he has some criticism to make, saying: "It was with regret that I noticed a lack of promptness in many of the duties of this camp, as observed on the fourth day. Guard mounting was late and faulty in some respects, while, in the afternoon, the formation of the brigade line was over a quarter of an hour behind the time set for it in the orders, and the camp colors when set for the ceremony were completely ignored by two of the three infantry organizations."

The only change of importance in equipments is the supply of steel bayonet scabbards by the U. S. Ordnance Department for the 1st and 2d Brigades which will soon be distributed.

Rifle practice, he says, "has made more progress this year than formerly. Thirty-six companies completed their armory practice, 23 had their company practice, and were qualified to enter teams for the annual match, 18 of which availed themselves of the privilege. The competition took place at the State camp ground, on the 17th of October."

"The number of marksmen is much greater than in any former year; the number of new badges issued being 200, which represents the number of marksmen who have qualified this year. In addition, 78 bullets have been issued, representing the number who, qualifying in former years, have again qualified this year; of this number, 56 received badges in 1886, and 62 in 1887; the total number of qualified marksmen being 318."

A list of the qualified marksmen and their scores follows. A large portion of the report is devoted to the subject of the camp ground, which is a permanent one, owned by the State. Much labor for improvement in the way of drainage, sinks, wells, turf, etc., has been performed, and the ground is reported in excellent sanitary condition. The problem to be solved remains that of stables, which have so far not been satisfactory. The report, however, does not recommend the building of new stables, although it is admitted that this would facilitate the hiring of a better class of horses for the artillery and cavalry organizations.

The annual expenses of the militia since the reduction of 1876 have averaged \$145,919.03, as against \$210,832.79 for the five preceding years.

Orders have been issued as follows: Commissioned officers are allowed to wear the present United States regulation helmet, as prescribed for each arm of the service. The change, if made, must be made simultaneously by all the officers of the regiment or separate battalion concerned, except that the field and staff of any organization may change without regard to the officers of companies.

G. O. No. 7, series 1878, and paragraphs 38 and 110C, Regulations M. V. M., are modified so that, in all formations of regimental line, the companies will take position in line as prescribed in paragraph 368, Upton's Infantry Tactics, regardless of the battalions to which they belong. Majors will take post from the right as prescribed in Regulations. The arrangement of companies into battalions for purposes of tactical instruction will remain as at present prescribed.

We have received invitation to a military levee of the National Lancers, of Boston, at their armory on Feb. 28, 1888. Committee—Capt. B. W. Dean, Lieut. H. G. Kemp and H. D. Andrews. Reception Committee—Capt. A. G. Deane and S. Wilmart, Major L. Slade, Capt. C. C. Emery, C. A. Kimball, A. L. Sanborn, and G. S. Hoyt, Majors T. J. Pierce and A. Dearborn, Capt. G. E. Richardson and C. F. Thurston.

RIFLE MATTERS.

The Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association at an adjourned meeting, Feb. 13, discussed the question of the kind of sights to be used on the rifles of the contestants in the coming international military match. Colonel H. G. Litchfield, U. S. Army, offered a resolution that the U. S. Regulation foresight model of 1870, the Sharp-Shooter military foresight, as heretofore authorized at Wimbledon, should be used for the return match. The secretary of the National Rifle Association of Great Britain has written that a wind gauge would be allowed at the return match. A resolution offered by Colonel Howard was passed, approving the use in matches of all wind gauges used by the Army and the National Guard at Creedmoor, or their equivalents, previous to December 1, 1882. Earl Brownlow will be the captain of the British team for the contest with the Americans at Wimbledon next year.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

THE ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD.

Probably no State in the Union is better able to maintain and support an efficient National Guard than Illinois, and yet few do so poorly by its Militia at present. There are bills before the Legislature providing for its extinction, and while there are chances against their passage, some members nevertheless show a bitter opposition, very trying to the National Guard and its officers. There are other bills that contemplate liberal appropriations and a thorough code. There is a very determined feeling all through the National Guard that the Legislature does not increase the appropriations and pass a more favorable code, it would be better to disband their own accord than drag along as at present. From the time it may be surmised that the Illinois National Guard is not in the best shape. This is true only in a financial sense; for in drill and all that goes to make up a first-class Militia, they will compare favorably with the National Guard of other States. The trouble is that they receive but barely enough to pay their armory rent, and have to go into their pockets for money to supply fuel, pay armorer's salaries, to light their halls and buy their uniforms. They either do this or beg the money of the merchants and friends of the Militia. Well-informed parties, however, assert that the Legislature is strongly favorable to the National Guard, and will not only increase the appropriation, but also amend the code, among other things changing the terms of enlistment from five years to three years.

Adjutant General J. H. Elliott, with his able assistant Major E. A. Routh, have just completed a comprehensive report of the condition of the Illinois National Guard and its needs. From advanced sheets of the document, some valuable information is gleaned. When General Elliott succeeded General Hilliard as Adjutant General he formed the Illinois National Guard, composed of three brigades, with a total force of 8,239 officers and men, in nine regiments, and eight battalions of infantry, one battalion of cavalry and four batteries of artillery. It was "a scattered force of 8,000 soldiery in all stages of discipline, with as much diversity of opinion concerning the code as there was variety in the uniforms of the troops." His first step was a thorough inspection, which resulted in the disbandment of 37 companies, and the reduction of the force to about 5,000 officers and men. An order of consolidation followed these sweeping reductions, and the force, as now organized, consists of nine regiments of infantry, one of cavalry and three batteries. The report refers to the improved condition of the service, and, in a general way, to the necessity of the National Guard and its proper support. A considerable portion of the report is devoted to showing the insufficiency of the State appropriation, which he recommends being increased from \$70,000 to \$100,000. Of the encampments he says that those "which have been held previous to 1882 have been voluntary and without expense to the State, except for subsistence and some small items of transportation, the men and officers giving their time and services without pay and the railroads free transportation."

He says: "I was extremely gratified at the high state of discipline maintained and the military bearing of officers and men. The encampment furnishes the only opportunity to the commands outside of Chicago to come together for battalion drill, guard duty and comparison with each other, and I do not hesitate to say that, next to maintaining the organization of the National Guard, the State has done nothing more important for its citizen soldiery than providing them annual encampments."

The Guard is now armed with the Springfield breech-loading rifle, calibre 45, with the exception of the 1st Infantry and a part of the 3d Infantry, which are armed with the same rifle, calibre 50. By July 1, 1883, he expects to have the entire State force equipped with the latest pattern of the Springfield rifle with accretions. After urging legislation providing for the better care of the "colors, flags, guidons and military trophies of the war belonging to the State," he gives an idea of the work of his office and requests more help. In conclusion he thanks Governor Cullom for kindly services extended to the Guard and expresses the hope that the Legislature will continue to aid and foster the organization. Full financial statements follow, together with a full roster of the officers connected with the Guard, and a statement of all arms, munitions of war and supplies belonging to the organization.

OHIO.—We acknowledge receipt of invitation of the Cleveland Grays to their 46th anniversary celebration at the City Armory, on Thursday evening, Feb. 22.

THERE can be no doubt that the New York Life Insurance Company is one of the soundest and most skillfully managed institutions of the kind in the world, and its great business is rapidly increasing. In 1872 its assets were about eighteen and a half millions. On the first of last January they were towards fifty-one millions. And its money has been invested with such extraordinary wisdom that its eighteen millions of death claims paid since 1872 have been more than paid by the earnings of invested assets. During that time the company has received over seventy-two millions in premiums, and its total payments to policy holders have been over \$50,000,000—its dividends alone amounting to more than \$16,000,000—and the amount held in trust for policy holders has increased about thirty-two millions in the eleven years. That is a very remarkable showing.

THE use of tobacco grows in favor from year to year, but it is noteworthy that consumers are much more particular about quality than they used to be. Recognizing this, the old established and thoroughly reliable firm of Gail and Ax, of Baltimore, Md., whose advertisement we publish elsewhere, have labored, and successfully we are glad to say, to produce an article of smoking tobacco which combines high quality with low cost. Tobacco to the officer, enlisted man, sailor, etc., is a necessity, and they, better perhaps than most people, can appreciate a good article when they sample it. To them, especially, therefore, we commend the firm of Gail and Ax as dealers in tobacco of every kind, prompt to fill orders at the most reasonable prices. The services will find it of advantage to patronize this firm.

THE newspapers having published rumors as to unauthorized persons being permitted to view the remains of the late President Garfield, Lieut. C. S. Burbank, 10th U. S. Infantry, in charge of the guard over the remains, was recently questioned as to the facts, and replied: "There is no truth whatever in the rumor. Here is an order from the Secretary of War which says: 'Until otherwise ordered by competent authority no one save Mrs. Garfield will be permitted to view the remains.' That order is rigidly enforced, and no one but Mrs. Garfield is permitted to go inside the vault. The officer in charge is required to make a report once a month of all property in his charge, and he very naturally desires to know that in mentioning the remains of there being a mistake, and, feeling so, sometimes looks to satisfy himself, but aside from that no one, as I have said, is permitted to enter the vault."

ALL the Bavarian army is now armed with the Mauser gun. The new armament of the German army is thus completed; it was begun in 1873. The expenses have amounted to 133 millions, paid out of the French war indemnity.

GENERALS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

"Our strength in generals beats America hollow," says the *Broad Arrow*. "We have no less than one thousand six hundred and seventy-four, counting all ranks, while exactly two hundred and fifty are all that are at present employed on service."

Return of all Officers now holding rank as Generals, corrected to 15th January, 1883.

	Field Marshals.	Generals.	Lieut. Generals.	Major- Generals.	Total.
Active list of Cavalry and Infantry (fifty-two employed).....	3	17	27	80	127
Active list of Artillery, Engineers, Marines, Staff Corps.....	1	11	20	64	105
Colonels holding local rank as Major-Generals.....				2	2
Active list Indian Local Forces.....			1	4	17
Indian unemployed and supernumerary list.....			21	79	149
Indian Army, Retired Warrant, 31st December, 1877.....			30	3	33
General Officers on half pay of former commissions.....			8	1	9
Full Generals retired for age or non-employment.....			162		162
Lieutenant-Generals and Major-Generals retired for age or non-employment.....			104	91	195
Retired on full pay—Line, Artillery, and Engineers.....			3	28	272
Royal Marines on retired list.....			1	27	28
Retired Officers of Indian Staff Corps.....			3	2	408
Officers on retired pay.....				6	192
Indian Princes.....			2		2
Retired by sale of commissions.....			1	2	3
	4	363	267	1040	1674

FOREIGN NOTES.

THE German Government denies a report that it intends to at once increase its field artillery, it being only in contemplation to make some alterations in the organization of the force. Germany is at present weak in this arm, as compared with her neighbors, France and Russia. The figures are: France, 2,632 guns; Russia, 3,460 guns; Germany, 2,040 guns.

THERE has been a generous distribution of decorations in the French army in the shape of the Legion of Honor, which, conferred on the officer or soldier, carries with it a pension.

THE Prussian provinces of Saxony and Hesse-Nassau have been designated for great military manoeuvres, under the personal direction of the Emperor William of Germany. Five weeks will also be devoted to siege operations at Graudenz.

"IGNORUS," in the London *Figaro*, says of the late Gen. Chanzy: "Count Moltke had written of him that he was one of the few generals of the day capable of commanding an army of 200,000 men without losing their heads. This remark of the great German strategist produced a lively impression on the late and present Czar, as Chanzy might one day have become the commander-in-chief of a Russo-French army. Prince Bismarck was well aware of this, and did not like Gen. Chanzy."

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "Next to the machine gun question, that relating to magazine rifles is the principal one at this moment being discussed in military circles. Up to the present, however, if we except the trials made in 1881 at Woolwich, and those since carried out at Berlin, no really serious attempt was made to determine the value of these arms, until quite recently, when the Swedish government appointed a committee of officers to experiment with and report upon the different known systems of magazine rifles. The committee has recommended the Jarmann rifle, with fixed magazine, for adoption in the army of Norway and Sweden."

L'*Avenir Militaire* says: "Since the death of Gen. Chanzy all the French press has been discussing the merits of the French generals likely to be appointed as successor to the late commander of the 6th Army Corps, the most important in France, as it comprises the German frontier. The general to be chosen must possess great knowledge, activity, and organizing talents. Now, it seems that no man has yet been found uniting all these desiderata. The *Constitutionnel* puts forward the names of Gens. Billot, Sausser, and Gallifet, the first being the Minister for War and the other two being mixed up with politics, are not likely to be appointed to a post which ought to remain foreign to politics. The *Figaro* thinks of Gens. Lallemand, Wolf, and Gallifet. The first being almost deaf, and the second already commander of the 7th Army Corps (Besancon), it does not seem probable that the choice of the Minister would fall on them. The Duc d'Au male has against him the fact that he is a Prince of the House of Orleans. If the bill introduced by M. Floquet is passed he may even be exiled from France. There remain Gens. Favier, Carteret-Trécourt, Deroja, and Davoust, none of them being very popular in France. There is, therefore, a certain difficulty in putting the right man in the right place."

"It is curious enough," writes a correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette*, from Cairo, "to see the opera house, always cosmopolitan in the aspect of the audience, with a local coloring of faces and dresses when there is a full house, now brightened up somewhat by the addition of British officers in uniform. The Dufferin box is on the stage on the right of the house, facing the box of the Khedive, which is in the first tier, and opposite that reserved for the great visitors and Ministers. Over it are the harem boxes of the Viceregal family and of the Egyptian bigwigs, screened by an embroidered veil, through which there is just visible a sparkle of jewels now and then, but some of my more fervid friends declare they can see eyes glancing brightly behind it as well. Next to the Dufferin box is that of Sir A. Alison; next to the box of the Commander-in-Chief is that of Baker Pasha. The others

numbered up to nine on that side are mostly appropriated to various Europeans or Levantines, some of whom have their nights, whilst others are season subscribers. Sir Edward Malet's box is the first on the left side, and next is that of Mr. Fitzgerald; and then the boxes round to the stage box on that side are generally in possession of red coats, with alterations of stamboulines, fezes, and evening dress. In the pit there are many constant attendants in uniform. Sir Gerald Graham has a stall in a good position, and Maj.-Gen. Dormer has another, and dotted all over the house in the first and second tier and in the stalls you may see faces well known at the Senior Rag, the Junior, the Naval and Military, etc. Truth to tell, our uniforms, now-a-days, do not blaze and sparkle as they did when epaulettes were in vogue, and do not make the show of a theatre *par* on the continent. But the effect is good, *tout de meme*."

BEFORE fifty years are over France will, at her present slow rate of increase of population, have sunk, if not to the level of a second rate, at least to the bottom of the list of the great Powers. If we suppose that the population of the United States and of the various countries of Europe are decimated by no wars or exceptional maladies, and still preserve their present frontiers and go on increasing at the present rate of increase, their populations will, by the year 1932, a time which our children will see—be as follows: United States, 190,000,000; Russia, 158,000,000; Germany, 88,000,000; Great Britain, 63,000,000; Austria-Hungary, 44,000,000; and Italy, 44,000,000. So that France, which a century ago was really the *grande nation*, having still the largest population in Europe, will be but the sixth in rank in point of numbers.

THE *Progrès Militaire* says: "Commander Roudaire is going back to Tunis with Engineer Baronnet to continue his studies on the creation of an inland sea. The Commission charged to examine the project had rejected it on account of the enormous expenses it would cause (754,000,000 francs). But it had acknowledged that in a climatic, agricultural, and sanitary point of view, the creation of an inland sea would have immense advantages. M. Roudaire has not lost courage; he feels certain he will be able to prove the feasibility and desirability of his pet undertaking."

It has been decided that the general officers lately promoted for distinguished service in the field in Egypt—viz.: Gen. Lord Wolseley, Lieut. Gen. Sir Archibald Alison, and Maj. Gen. the Hon. Sir J. C. Dormer—shall continue as supernumeraries to the establishment of their respective ranks, until promotion has been obtained by the officers who would have stood next below them in their present rank had the general officers above mentioned had to await their promotion until it came to them in the ordinary course.

It is related by the *Broad Arrow* that, at the time of the Franco-Prussian war some German officers were one evening ridiculing Gambetta and his armies, when Count Moltke, who was standing near, remarked, "Yes, gentlemen, that is all very well; nevertheless, it took us no more than a month to beat the great disciplined army of France, but it took no less than five months to beat recruits and mobiles. Indeed M. Gambetta's *levée en masse* so astonished us soldiers that we shall have to study this question during long years of peace."

THE London *Veterinary Journal*, writing of the army horses of the English in Egypt, says: "Glanders was discovered to exist in the 6th Bengal Cavalry on its arrival in Egypt—the regiment had the disease before it left India—but, fortunately, rigid precautions were adopted, and the malady did not spread. Rinderpest was introduced by Russian cattle from Odessa, but as the veterinary staff were on the lookout for it, it appears to have been quickly suppressed. Among the horses remaining in Egypt there has been very much sickness, those in barracks at Cairo suffering most severely—the malady being aggravated by the filthy condition of the stables and their environs. The nature of the disease has not yet been exactly determined, but it is described as a malarious fever. Lower Egypt is not a good country for horses—particularly in the Delta of the Nile, and it is certain that English troopers will not resist the climate for any length of time; so that recourse will probably be had to native Arabs as remounts for the cavalry at least. Of the horses which have returned, though many were in wretched condition, yet they have, as a rule, much improved."

THE *United Service Gazette* asks how Lord Wolseley's reported declaration that he "had never seen a drunken soldier in Egypt," can be reconciled with the oft-repeated complaints of commanding officers in Egypt of the helpless state to which their battalions were reduced on arrival in Cairo by the numbers of men who were rendered perfectly useless—and worse—by indulgence in the native spirits obtainable at every wine shop. One commanding officer, in particular, mentions to the correspondent of a paper in Cairo that the number of duty men in his corps was lessened by nearly 200 during the first few days of the occupation of that town from this unfortunate cause."

PRINCE LEOPOLD, Duke of Albany, is not behind his brothers in one respect. He was married on April 27 last, and already he is beginning to anticipate the joys of fatherhood, and to prepare the birthday song. The Royal Family of England is already so large that the Queen herself hardly knows how many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren she possesses; and there is no prospect of the great increase in the family of Guolph Wetlin being stayed. It will soon be able to supply marriageable sons and daughters to all the royal races of the world. The question of the future of this enormous family—all of the blood royal—is serious. None of the Queen's sons and daughters are what is called wealthy in these days; and their families being large, the time must come when their descendants will have so far to forget their origin as to make their own way in the world. No more grants will be made by Parliament after the Princess Beatrice is provided for; and, as democracy advances, it will be more and more impossible for the Sovereign to "provide for her own" in making public appointments. Already, however, we see the brother-in-law of a princess on the Stock Exchange; and, the shock being thus broken to the mind, we may see the son of a prince getting rich as a wine merchant.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

THE Chinese Emperor has just sent his first telegram to a European Prince. It was sent, containing the celestial congratulations, to "Our Fritz," heir-apparent to the German crown, on the occasion of the silver wedding of that venerable smoking Emperor. Now that he has commenced telegraphing, the Brother of the Sun may become the greatest of all electrical bores.

ONE of the first acts performed by Lord Wolseley on resuming his duties at the War Office as Adjutant General of the Forces was to direct the immediate issue of a "Syllabus of Subjects for the examinations required to qualify officers to conduct the musketry training of troops and companies, together with instructions for the guidance of examining boards." The issue was delayed in consequence of the ope-

rations in Egypt, but since the greater portion of the troops have returned, the examinations, which are the preliminary steps to a more exhaustive system of musketry practice throughout the army than has previously obtained, have been carried out at all the military stations, with, it is stated, the best results. For the future musketry practice will not be subsidiary to drill, but will be considered of at least equal importance, and thus in time fulfil the idea that "no degree of perfection a soldier may have attained in other parts of his drill can upon service remedy any want of proficiency in shooting; in fact, all his other instruction in marching and manoeuvring can do no more than place him in the best possible situation for using his rifle with effect." These examinations are preliminary to the practical instruction to be carried out next season, and in which independent skirmishing and volley firing will be accompanied, where practicable by an extended course of field firing.

(From the United Service Gazette.)

PROMOTION BY SELECTION IN ENGLAND.

THE leading journal has ably advocated at different times the system of promotion in the army by selection, and the first great experiment of the authorities in this direction was heralded by a very significant article, indicating the course likely to be adopted in future. In principle, we agree with the *Times*, but we must confess that the recent promotion of a batch of colonels to the rank of major general was carried out in a way which has somewhat shaken our faith in the advisability of changing the old-established order of things. We were in hopes that promotion by selection would be—in wholesome dread of the criticism of the profession, the press, and Parliament—so carefully carried out that there would be little reasonable cause for carping. Such has not been the case. The colonels promoted over the heads of others were capable men, of acknowledged ability and distinguished services, but they were not, by the common consent of the army, of such super-eminent merit as to justify the supersession of the colonels overleapt by them. Without discussing each case, which would be an invidious task, we are bound to say that there does not seem to have been sufficient reason for the selection of some and the rejection of others. At all events, military opinion has expressed itself unmistakably against the proceeding. Naturally, at the first introduction of promotion by selection, an outcry in the profession would be raised simply because any innovation in a matter, which, like promotion, concerns every officer is regarded with jealous dislike. No matter how undeniably superior the colonels promoted were to the colonels passed over—and we do not admit any such marked unquestionable superiority—it would have been urged "It is all very well to say that A will make a better general than B, but B is a good sound officer, has gone through many campaigns, and has longer service than A." The objectors in the instance which we are discussing, can put the matter even more strongly. We may, however, observe parenthetically that the batch of promotions in question was the outcome of rejection rather than selection. The Secretary of War, the Duke of Cambridge, or some permanent civil official, apparently went down the list of colonels, passing over here and there an officer whose merit was not deemed pre-eminently conspicuous. No bold laying hold of a name near the bottom of the list and pitchforking him over the heads of perhaps 200 seniors was attempted. Possibly it was thought prudent to begin gently, so as to avoid susceptibilities as much as possible. That as time goes on more vigorous action will be taken, and the example of the Admiralty followed, we have no doubt.

Quitting for a moment the question of the future, we ask what will be the fate of the colonels recently passed over? Are their cases to be considered merely instances of temporary rejection? or are they to make up their minds to a continuance of supersession? We can hardly suppose the latter, for among the colonels passed over is one, Sir C. Pearson, who evinced conspicuous capacity in Zululand, and whose services have been as conspicuously recognized. On the other hand, can anyone pretend that if these colonels were not the best men to be found for the rank of major-general the other day they will be the best some two or three months later?

The theory of promotion by selection is admirable. Indeed, any other possible theory seems utterly illogical and opposed to common sense. There surely cannot be a flaw in a system according to which the vacancies in a certain grade are filled by promoting from the next lower grade the very best men that can be found. Abstractly, who could find fault with the head of the Army, who, having to fill a place of major-general, promotes that officer among the colonels who gives every promise of performing the duties of major-general with the utmost efficiency? Neither length of service, nor many campaigns, nor personal courage, necessarily constitute a claim to promotion. Length of service means experience, but everyone does not profit by experience. A campaign of a few weeks often gives more experience than several years of peace service, but all do not turn such experience to account. Frederick the Great observed while writing on this subject: "My baggage mule has gone through many campaigns." Personal courage is the first virtue of a soldier, and is especially valuable in a commander, for it enables him without fear of personal danger to give his whole mind to the handling of his troops in battle. Courage may, however, be unaccompanied by any capacity, and is found in all ranks. Long service, many campaigns, and conspicuous gallantry are not synonymous with capacity, and therefore should be ignored when it comes to be a question of promotion to a high command such as that of a major-general. Again, a man may have discharged the duties of one grade without being fitted for the performance of those of a higher grade. A good captain may make an indifferent major, and an excellent colonel prove an incapable general. All the above considerations point to the desirability of promotion by selection. When, however, we come to practice, we find great difficulties in the way.

"What is merit?" Lord Palmerston once cynically asked the House of Commons. The Duke of Cambridge is not only opposed to promotion by selection, and has expressed his objections to it in strong terms. He has asserted that during peace it is difficult, if not impossible, to measure merit, and openly avowed that he shrank from the responsibility of selecting officers for advancement. We do not go as far as His Royal Highness.

What we are chiefly concerned with for the moment is to urge on the authorities the utmost caution, the greatest care in the introduction of the new system. There is a rooted conviction in the army that selection is only a plausible synonym for jobbery, a conviction which receives a certain amount of support from the conduct of the Admiralty. A discontented means an inefficient body of officers; and discontent will certainly be strong, and intrigue and kow-towing become degradingly prevalent, unless the selections made are such as to commend themselves to the sense of justice.

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and receive the support of the public opinion of the profession. Certainly the first experiment is not, as we have said before, sufficiently encouraging to induce us to believe that, however sound in principle promotion by merit may be, the practical application of it on a large scale cannot (can?) contribute to an increase in the efficiency of the army.

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BIRTH.

UPHAM.—At San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 9, to the wife of Captain F. K. Upham, 1st Cavalry a daughter.

MARRIED.

GARRARD—LANE.—At Fort Monroe, Va., Feb. 15, 1st Lieutenant JOSEPH GARRARD, 4th U. S. Artillery, to Miss MERRIE B. LANE, daughter of Colonel W. B. Lane, U. S. Army, retired.

NICHOLSON—FENLON.—At Leavenworth, Kansas, February 6, Lieutenant WILLIAM J. NICHOLSON, 7th U. S. Cavalry, to Miss HATTIE FENLON.

PERRY—BROOKE.—At Norfolk, Va., February 6, P. A. Engineer JAMES HILLHOUSE PERRY, U. S. N., and ELLA, daughter of W. H. Brooke, Esq., of Essex Co., Va.

DIED.

BRACE.—At New York City, February 18, Mr. WILLIAM N. BRACE, father in law of Lieutenant Charles L. Collins, 24th U. S. Infantry.

COLLINS.—At Fort Union, N. M., Jan. 30, Acting Asst. Surgeon J. H. COLLINS, U. S. Army.

DAVIS.—At Austin, Texas, February 7, General E. M. DAVIS, father of Lieutenant Britton Davis, 3d U. S. Cavalry.

FREMENDER.—At Washington, D. C., Feb. 8, JOHN M. FREMENDER, formerly Lieutenant 4th U. S. Artillery.

MORRIS.—February 11, at his residence, at Scarborough on the Hudson, in his 68th year, GEORGE W. MORRIS, late Lieutenant Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., and Major General of Volunteers.

MORRIS.—At Newport, R. I., Feb. 12, in the 38th year of his age, FRANCIS MORRIS, Commander U. S. Navy, son of Lewis C. and the late Emily Lorillard Morris, of Fordham.

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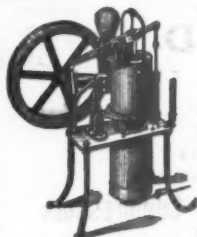
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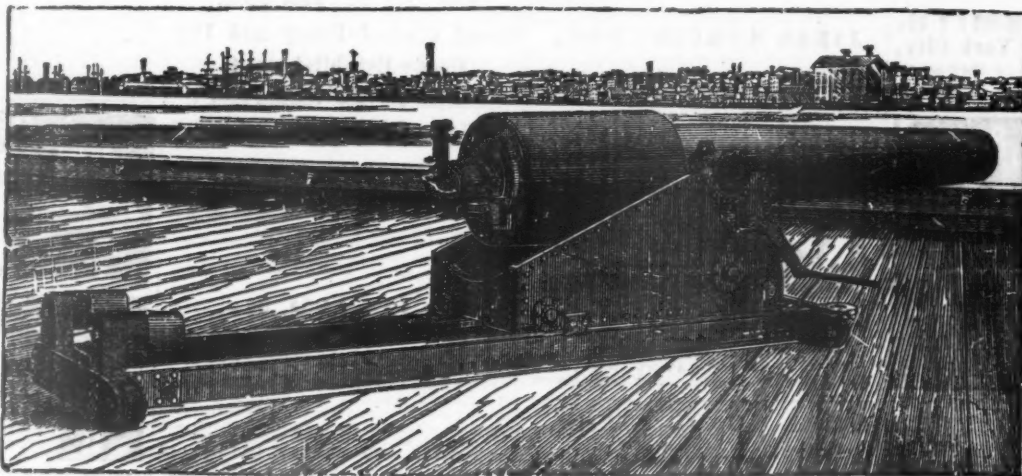
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